DIGEST

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Talbot

HB No. 248

Abstract: Relative to the voucher program, requires that scholarship recipients annually meet the family income level eligibility criteria for program participation.

<u>Present law</u> relative to the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence (voucher) Program, defines eligible students as those residing in La. from families with a total income not exceeding 250% of the current federal poverty guidelines who are entering kindergarten, were enrolled in a La. public school that had a letter grade of C, D, or F, or received a scholarship the previous school year. Provides that scholarship recipients shall remain eligible to receive scholarships in each succeeding year that they remain enrolled in a participating school through grade 12. Provides requirements for program administration by the state Dept. of Education, including but not limited to determining student eligibility for scholarships.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> except requires that a scholarship recipient meet the <u>present law</u> family income level eligibility criteria each year in order to participate in the program. <u>Proposed</u> <u>law</u> further requires that the state Dept. of Education annually verify the eligibility status of each scholarship recipient.

(Amends R.S. 17:4015(1) and 4018)