Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 953

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGER, BADON, BROADWATER, BURRELL, CARMODY, DIXON, HUNTER, JEFFERSON, PIERRE, REYNOLDS, SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, AND WOODRUFF

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. $17:24.4(A)(4)$ and $(F)(1)$ and to enact R.S. $17:24.4(F)(2)$, relative
3	to statewide content standards and assessments for required subjects; to provide
4	relative to the definition and establishment of such standards; to provide for the
5	collection and sharing of student assessment results and information by the State
6	Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to provide for the use of such results
7	and information for specified purposes including for purposes of distributing school
8	and district letter grades; to provide for the promulgation of rules by the State Board
9	of Elementary and Secondary Education relative to measuring student growth; to
10	require the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to establish an
11	academic support plan and determine interventions for certain failing public schools;
12	and to provide for related matters.
13	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
14	Section 1. R.S. $17:24.4(A)(4)$ and $(F)(1)$ are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
15	17:24.4(F)(2) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
16	§24.4. Louisiana Competency-Based Education Program; statewide standards for
17	required subjects; Louisiana Educational Assessment Program; parish or city
18	school board comprehensive pupil progression plans; waivers
19	A. As used in this Section, the following words, terms, and phrases shall
20	have the meaning ascribed to them in this Subsection, except when the context
21	clearly indicates a different meaning:
22	* * *
23	(4) "The statewide content standards for required subjects" are statements
24	that define what a student Louisiana public elementary and secondary students

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1	should know or be able to accomplish at the end of a specific time period or grade
2	level or at the completion of a course. Content standards shall represent the
3	knowledge and skills needed for students to successfully transition to postsecondary
4	education and the workplace, as determined by content experts, elementary and
5	secondary educators and school leaders, postsecondary education leaders, and
6	business and industry leaders.
7	* * *
8	F.(1)(a) The Department of Education shall begin implementation of
9	implement a Louisiana Educational Assessment Program with the approval of the
10	State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
11	(b) Developmental readiness student screening for placement and for
12	planning instruction shall occur upon initial school entry into kindergarten.
13	(c) Standards-based assessments in English language arts, mathematics,
14	science, and social studies based on state content standards and rigorous student
15	achievement standards set with reference to test scores of students of the same grade
16	level nationally shall be implemented by the State Board of Elementary and
17	Secondary Education. Such tests and shall be administered, at a minimum, in grades
18	three through eleven.
19	(d) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, standards-based assessments
20	implemented by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in English
21	language arts and mathematics shall be based on nationally recognized content
22	standards that represent the knowledge and skills needed for students to successfully
23	transition to postsecondary education and the workplace and shall allow for
24	comparison of student achievement with students in other states.
25	(e) Rigorous student achievement standards shall be set with reference to test
26	scores of the same grade levels nationally.
27	$\frac{(e)(f)}{(e)}$ The rigor of each standards-based assessment, at a minimum, shall be
28	comparable to national achievement tests, including but not limited to the National
29	Assessment of Education Educational Progress.

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1	(f)(g) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, upon initial
2	implementation of the tests provided for in this Subsection, shall establish by rule
3	adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act the adequate test score
4	to determine successful performance of the student on each test provided for by this
5	Subsection.
6	(2)(a) The state board shall collect statewide results from the assessments
7	administered to students in the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years in order to
8	define the basis for student achievement expectations to be used in the school and
9	district accountability system pursuant to R.S. 17:10.1.
10	(b) The state board shall comply with federal and state law in reporting
11	student results from such assessments in 2015 and 2016. In 2016, the state board
12	shall provide aggregate results from such assessments to an appropriately qualified
13	faculty member at a Louisiana postsecondary education institution who shall analyze
14	student performance and advise the board on the basis for achievement expectations.
15	(c) For the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 school years:
16	(i) The state board shall use the statewide results from the assessments
17	administered in 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 as the basis for a distribution of school
18	and district letter grades that shall not vary from the distribution of letter grades
19	resulting from the 2012-2013 assessment results unless schools or districts improve
20	in their performance such that the overall distribution of letter grades is better than
21	the 2012-2013 distribution.
22	(ii) After assigning letter grades, the state board shall establish an academic
23	support plan for each public school that concludes its third consecutive year of
24	academic failure and shall require a change in school governance only after such a
25	plan has been implemented in the school for at least one year.
26	(iii) The state board shall not use the results of such assessments to require
27	the use of value-added data in the evaluation of educators. The state board may
28	promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to ensure that
29	local public school systems have an accurate basis for measuring student growth in
30	the absence of such data.

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1	(d) Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year and continuing thereafter, the
2	state board shall use the results of the assessments implemented pursuant to
3	Subparagraph (1)(d) of this Subsection as the basis for student achievement
4	expectations in the school and district accountability system and in value-added
5	analysis.
6	(e) The state board shall use such assessments based on nationally
7	competitive standards to establish a statewide performance goal to be reached by
8	2025 and shall use such a goal as the basis for school and performance expectations.

* * *

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____

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