
DIGEST

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HB 373 Reengrossed

2015 Regular Session

Geymann

Abstract: Provides for the review, development, and implementation of state content standards for public school students.

Present law requires the state Dept. of Education to develop, with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), statewide content standards for required subjects for public elementary and secondary schools. Requires implementation of the standards by the department as approved by BESE, with recommendations prior to approval and advice from the educational personnel in the public schools and colleges and universities of this state.

Proposed law requires BESE to develop the standards instead of the department with BESE approval. Further provides relative to the review, development, and implementation of state content standards in English language arts and math as follows:

- (1) Requires BESE to begin reviewing and developing state content standards in English language arts and math by July 1, 2015.
- (2) Requires BESE to hold at least one meeting for the standards' review and development in each La. congressional district.
- (3) Requires BESE to submit the minutes from each meeting to each member of the legislature not later than 30 days after the meeting.
- (4) Provides that all such meetings are subject to the Open Meetings Law.
- (5) Requires BESE to post the standards on its website by Feb. 21, 2016, and to adopt the standards by March 4, 2016.
- (6) Requires BESE to promulgate the standards in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act prior to implementation.
- (7) Requires the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate each to appoint one member to serve as a liaison to attend the meetings held pursuant to proposed law and requires each liaison to report on the status of the review and development of the standards and the specific time lines and actions taken by BESE in commencing the process for the promulgation of rules for the revised standards if the governor suspends or vetoes the rules.

- (8) Provides that if the governor suspends or vetoes the rules promulgated by BESE for the standards, the board shall undertake a review of the standards and make any necessary revisions and shall commence without delay the promulgation of rules for the revised standards.

Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

Provides that proposed law is effective if House Bill No. 542 and Senate Bill No. 43 of the 2015 R.S. become effective.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Require BESE to develop the state content standards instead of the department with BESE approval.
2. Add provisions for the review, development, and implementation of state content standards in English language arts and math by BESE including requirements for meetings, rules, submission of minutes, and the posting and adoption of the standards. Also add requirement that the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate each to appoint a liaison to attend the meetings.
3. Add provisions relative to the suspension or veto of the standards by the governor.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add requirement that the legislative liaisons report time lines and actions taken by BESE in the process for the promulgation of revised standards after a veto or suspension of the initial standards.
2. Add House Bill No. 542 to contingency effectiveness provision.