

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 673

BY REPRESENTATIVE NANCY LANDRY

SCHOOLS/CHOICE: Provides for considerations of the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education in its authorization of course choice providers

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact 17:4002.4(A)(1), relative to the Course Choice Program; to provide
3 relative to the powers and duties of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
4 Education with respect to the program; to provide relative to the state board's process
5 for authorizing proposed course providers; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:4002.4(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §4002.4. State board; powers and duties relative to course providers

9 A.(1) The state board shall create a process for authorizing course providers
10 that shall determine whether each proposed course provider complies with the law
11 and rules, whether the proposal is valid, complete, financially well-structured, and
12 educationally sound, whether it provides a plan for collecting data in accordance
13 with R.S. 17:3911, and whether it offers ~~potential~~ a substantial likelihood for
14 fulfilling the purposes of this Part. The state board shall provide for an independent
15 evaluation of the proposal by a third party with educational, organizational, legal,
16 and financial expertise.

17 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 673 Original

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Nancy Landry

Abstract: Provides relative to considerations the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) shall make in its authorization of proposed course providers for participation in the Course Choice Program.

Present law establishes the Course Choice Program, through which elementary and secondary students may enroll in course work offered by a course provider. Defines a "course provider" as an entity that offers individual courses in person or online, including but not limited to online or virtual education providers, postsecondary education institutions, and corporations that offer vocational or technical course work. Requires that course providers be authorized to provide courses by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Requires BESE to create a process for such authorization that shall determine whether each proposed course provider complies with present law and BESE policy and whether the proposal:

- (1) Is valid, complete, financially well-structured, and educationally sound.
- (2) Provides a plan for collecting data in accordance with present law.
- (3) Offers potential for fulfilling present law purposes.

Proposed law revises the criterion in (3) above to require BESE to determine whether the proposal offers a substantial likelihood – rather than potential – to fulfill present law purposes.

(Amends R.S. 17:4002.4(A)(1))