

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 248

BY REPRESENTATIVE TALBOT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS/CHOICE: Relative to the Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence (voucher) Program, requires that scholarship recipients annually meet certain criteria for program participation

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:4015(1) and 4018, relative to the Student Scholarships for
3 Educational Excellence Program; to require that a scholarship recipient meet the
4 family income level eligibility criteria each year in order to participate in the
5 program; to require that the state Department of Education annually verify the
6 eligibility status of each scholarship recipient; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:4015(1) and 4018 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
9 follows:

10 §4015. Program administration

11 In administering the program pursuant to this Chapter, the department shall:

- 12 (1) Determine student eligibility for scholarships and annually verify the
13 eligibility status of each scholarship recipient.

14 * * *

15 §4018. Student eligibility

16 ~~Scholarship recipients~~ A scholarship recipient shall remain eligible to receive
17 ~~scholarships~~ a scholarship in each succeeding year that ~~they remain~~ he remains
18 enrolled in a participating school through grade twelve if he meets the eligibility
19 criteria defined in R.S. 17:4013(2) relative to family income levels for each year of

- 1 program participation. Eligibility shall continue if a recipient transfers from one
2 participating school to another participating school.
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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)]

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.

Present law 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.

Proposed law retains present law except requires that a scholarship recipient meet the present law family income level eligibility criteria each year in order to participate in the program. Proposed law 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)