HLS 19RS-566 ORIGINAL

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 253

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BY REPRESENTATIVE NANCY LANDRY

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

TEXTBOOKS/MATERIALS: Requires certain disclosures by vendors and public school governing authorities relative to the giving and receiving of things of economic value prior to the adoption of textbooks and other instructional materials

AN ACT

2	To enact R.S. 17:351.1(C)(6), relative to the purchase of text books and other instructional
3	materials by public school governing authorities; to require disclosures by vendors
4	and public school governing authorities relative to the giving and receiving of things
5	of economic value; and to provide for related matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. 17:351.1(C)(6) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
8	§351.1. Textbooks and other instructional materials; review; adoption; procurement;
9	distribution
10	* * *
11	C.
12	* * *
13	(6) At a meeting of a public school governing authority held not more than
14	sixty days prior to any action by the school system to adopt, select, or purchase any
15	textbook or instructional material, the vendor of the textbook or material shall
16	publically report on any thing of economic value that it has given to any member of
17	the school governing authority, to the school system, to a school governed by the
18	governing authority, or to an organization whose members are primarily Louisiana
19	public schools or Louisiana public school personnel. At the same meeting, the

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

governing authority shall publically disclose all records pertaining to the receipt of

any thing of economic value from the vendor by any member of the governing

authority or by any employee of the school system. All such reports and records

shall be posted on the governing authority's website. For purposes of this Paragraph,

"thing of economic value" has the meaning provided by R.S. 42:1102.

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 253 Original

2019 Regular Session

Nancy Landry

Abstract: Requires public disclosure of the giving and receiving of things of economic value by vendors of textbooks and instructional materials and governing authorities of public elementary and secondary schools.

<u>Present law</u> requires the governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school to adopt policies and regulations for the adoption and use of textbooks and other instructional materials, including textbooks and other materials that have not been reviewed by the state Dept. of Education.

<u>Present law</u> (the Code of Governmental Ethics) prohibits a public employee or elected official from receiving anything of economic value, other than compensation and benefits to which he is duly entitled, for the performance of his duties and responsibilities. Further prohibits a public employee or elected official from accepting any thing of economic value as a gift or gratuity from any person if the public employee or elected official knows or reasonably should know that such person has or is seeking to obtain contractual or other business or financial relationships with the public servant's agency.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires a vendor of textbook or instructional material to publically report on any thing of economic value that it has given to any member of the school governing authority, to the school system, to a school governed by the governing authority, or to an organization whose members are primarily La. public schools or La. public school personnel. Requires such reporting at a public meeting of the governing authority held not more than 60 days prior to an action by the school system to adopt, select, or purchase any textbook or instructional material.

<u>Proposed law</u> further requires the school governing authority, at the same meeting, to publically disclose all records pertaining to the receipt of any thing of economic value from the vendor by any member of the governing authority or by any employee of the school system. Requires that the school governing authority post all reports and records disclosed pursuant to <u>proposed law</u> on its website.

(Adds R.S. 17:351.1(C)(6))