

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 266

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

TOPS: Provides relative to core curriculum requirements for initial eligibility for a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students award

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5025(3)(c), (5), and (6), relative to high school core
3 curriculum requirements for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to remove
4 computer science courses as an alternative to foreign language; to add computer
5 science courses to the elective science courses; to add Louisiana Heritage
6 Connections to the art courses; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:5025(3)(c), (5), and (6) are hereby amended and reenacted to read
9 as follows:

10 §5025. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance,
11 Honors Awards

12 To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant
13 to this Chapter, a student shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which
14 consists of twenty units of high school course work as follows:

15 * * *

16 (3) Science - Four Units

17 * * *

18 (c) Two units chosen from the following: Computer Science, which shall be
19 in principles, coding, and programming and may include Computer Science I;
20 Computer Science II; Fundamentals of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript (Level 1);
21 Advanced JavaScript, Functional Programming, and Web Development (Level 2);
22 AP Computer Science A; AP Computer Science Principles; Computer Science Year

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 266 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Amedee

Abstract: Provides relative to the high school core curriculum required for a Taylor Opportunity for Students award.

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), a college scholarship program, including initial and continuing eligibility requirements. Provides that students are required to take either two units of foreign language that are in the same language or two units of computer science.

Proposed law removes the option to take two units of computer science in lieu of a foreign language and instead adds computer science to a list of accepted science electives. Present law requires two science electives in the TOPS–Opportunity, Performance, and Honors (OPH) Award core curriculum.

Proposed law authorizes La. Heritage Connections to satisfy the requirement for one unit of Art to initially qualify for TOPS–OPH.

Proposed law is applicable to those graduating in the 2027-2028 school year and thereafter.

(Amends R.S. 17:5025(3)(c), (5), and (6))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add La. Heritage Connections to list of courses that may satisfy requirement of one unit of Art for initial qualification for TOPS.