

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 594

BY REPRESENTATIVE PRICE

EDUCATION/FINANCE-8G: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides relative to the purposes for which monies from the Quality Education Support Fund (8(g)) may be used by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Article VII, Section 10.1(D)(2) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to provide relative to the purposes for which monies from the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund may be used by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to provide for submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VII, Section 10.1(D)(2) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

§10.1. Quality Trust Fund; Education

Section 10.1.

* * *

(D) Disbursement; Higher Education and Elementary and Secondary Education.

* * *

(2) The treasurer shall disburse not more than fifty percent of the monies in the Support Fund as that money is appropriated by the legislature and allocated by

1 the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for ~~any or all~~ of the
2 following elementary and secondary educational purposes:

3 (a) ~~To provide compensation to city or parish school board professional~~
4 ~~instructional employees.~~

5 (b) To insure an adequate supply of superior textbooks, library books,
6 equipment, technology services, and other instructional materials.

7 (c) ~~To fund exemplary programs in elementary and secondary schools~~
8 ~~designed to improve elementary or secondary student academic achievement or~~
9 ~~vocational-technical skill.~~

10 (d) ~~To fund carefully defined research efforts, including pilot programs,~~
11 ~~designed to improve elementary and secondary student academic achievement.~~

12 (e) b To fund school remediation programs and preschool programs.

13 (f) ~~To fund the teaching of foreign languages in elementary and secondary~~
14 ~~schools.~~

15 (g) ~~To fund an adequate supply of teachers by providing scholarships or~~
16 ~~stipends to prospective teachers in academic or vocational-technical areas where~~
17 ~~there is a critical teacher shortage.~~

18 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted
19 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4,
20 2014.

21 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,
22 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted
23 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as
24 follows:

25 Do you support an amendment to limit the purposes for which monies from
26 the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund may be used by the State
27 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education? (Amends Article VII,
28 Section 10.1(D)(2))

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)]

Price

HB No. 594

Abstract: Provides relative to the purposes for which monies from the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund, 8(g), may be used by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Present constitution provides for the creation of the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund (the Support Fund) in the state treasury. Further provides that the amounts in the Support Fund shall be available for appropriation to pay expenses incurred in the investment and management of the Permanent Trust Fund and for educational purposes only as provided in present constitution.

Present constitution provides that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Board of Regents shall annually submit to the legislature and the governor a proposed program and budget for the expenditure of the monies in the Support Fund. Further provides that, except for appropriations to pay expenses incurred in the investment and management of the Permanent Trust Fund, the legislature shall appropriate from the Support Fund only for the educational purposes provided in present constitution and shall appropriate 50% of the available funds for higher educational purposes and 50% for elementary and secondary educational purposes.

Present constitution provides that the treasurer shall disburse not more than 50% of the monies in the Support Fund as that money is appropriated by the legislature and allocated by BESE for any or all of the following elementary and secondary educational purposes:

- (1) To provide compensation to city or parish school board professional instructional employees.
- (2) To insure an adequate supply of superior textbooks, library books, equipment, and other instructional materials.
- (3) To fund exemplary programs in elementary and secondary schools designed to improve elementary or secondary student academic achievement or vocational-technical skill.
- (4) To fund school carefully defined research efforts, including pilot programs, designed to improve elementary and secondary student academic achievement.
- (5) To fund school remediation programs and preschool programs.
- (6) To fund the teaching of foreign languages in elementary and secondary schools.
- (7) To fund an adequate supply of teachers by providing scholarships or stipends to prospective teachers in academic or vocational-technical areas where there is a critical teacher shortage.

Proposed constitutional amendment removes all such purposes for use of such funds except insuring an adequate supply of superior textbooks, library books, equipment, and other instructional materials and funding preschool programs.

Proposed constitutional amendment adds as a purpose ensuring the supply of technology services.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Amends Const. Art. VII, §10.1(D)(2))