

ACT No. 688

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 656

BY REPRESENTATIVE EMERSON

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:182(B) and to enact R.S. 17:3996(B)(45), relative to elementary school students; to provide relative to provisions that require each governing authority of a public elementary or charter school to implement a reading program at an elementary school in accordance with certain guidelines; to provide relative to certain reports; to authorize the state Department of Education to extend deadlines for administration and reports; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:182(B) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3996(B)(45) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§182. Student reading skills; requirements; reports

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B.(1) Not later than thirty days after the beginning of each school year, each second grade ~~teacher~~ student and each third grade ~~teacher~~ student shall ~~report be~~ administered a literacy screener to identify the number of students in the teacher's class who cannot read below, at, and above grade level. Students scoring above grade level shall be considered for evaluation into a gifted program. Students scoring below grade level shall be considered for additional resources.

(2) Not later than forty-five days after the beginning of the school year, a literacy screening report describing the number of students who read below, at, and above grade level ~~Copies of this report~~ shall be sent simultaneously by ~~the~~ each teacher to the principal of the school and to the system superintendent. The report

1 shall also include the number of children who were referred to gifted evaluation as
2 a result of their screening results.

3 ~~(2)~~ (3) Not later than sixty days after the beginning of each school year, the
4 information required to be submitted pursuant to Paragraph ~~(1)~~ (2) of this Subsection
5 shall be forwarded by each system superintendent to the state superintendent of
6 education and to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

7 ~~(3)~~ (4) Not later than ninety days after the beginning of each school year, the
8 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall compile and submit a
9 report to the House Committee on Education and to the Senate Committee on
10 Education showing for each public elementary school, for each school system, and
11 for the state as a whole the number of students in second or third grades in public
12 elementary schools who cannot read at grade level as determined pursuant to the
13 provisions of this Section. The data for each school, for each school system, and for
14 the state as a whole shall be reported in the school progress profiles provided for by
15 R.S. 17:3911 and 3912.

16 (5) In times of crisis or natural disaster, the state Department of Education
17 may extend deadlines for administration and reporting results of the screening
18 instruments required by this Subsection.

19 * * *

20 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

21 * * *

22 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
23 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
24 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
25 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
26 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
27 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
28 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

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