

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 921

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

EARLY CHILDHOOD: Provides relative to adverse childhood experiences and trauma-informed education

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:407.30(E), (F), and (G) and 437.2(D) and to enact R.S.
3 17:407.22.1, 407.30(H), and 437.2(A)(3) and (E), relative to trauma-informed
4 education; to provide for definitions; to provide for responsibilities of the state
5 Department of Education; to require the creation of pilot programs; and to provide
6 for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:407.30(E), (F), and (G) and 437.2(D) are hereby amended and
9 reenacted and R.S. 17:407.22.1, 407.30(H), and 437.2(A)(3) and (E) are hereby enacted to
10 read as follows:

11 §407.22.1. Trauma-informed early childhood education; pilot program

12 A.(1) The state Department of Education shall create and annually
13 implement pilot programs that integrate trauma-informed education as defined in
14 R.S. 17:437.2 into early childhood education.

15 (2) After one year the department shall expand the programs pursuant to
16 Paragraph (1) of this Subsection by integrating trauma-informed family outreach as
17 defined in R.S. 17:437.2 into early childhood education.

18 B. The department shall report to the legislature by January thirty-first
19 annually relative to the status, progress, and effects of the programs implemented
20 pursuant to Subsection A of this Section.

21 * * *

1 §407.30. Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund

2 * * *

3 E. Monies from the fund shall be used for the purpose of integrating trauma-
4 informed education and trauma-informed family outreach as defined in R.S. 17:437.2
5 into early childhood education efforts.

6 F. Monies from the fund shall not be used to displace, replace, or supplant
7 the amount appropriated to the Child Care Assistance Program.

8 F. G. The department shall actively solicit and use resources to fund the
9 Child Care Assistance Program slots.

10 ~~G.~~ H. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall
11 promulgate rules and regulations to administer the distribution of monies from the
12 fund to the Child Care Assistance Program.

13 * * *

14 §437.2. Adverse childhood experiences; trauma-informed education; in-
15 service training

16 A. As used in this Section:

17 * * *

18 (3) "Trauma-informed family outreach" means a school-wide approach to
19 parental or care giver outreach in which the parent or care giver receive access to
20 information about adverse childhood experiences and their effect on early childhood
21 education, and education and resources regarding the manifestations of such
22 experiences in adulthood and the intergenerational nature of such experiences in
23 families.

24 * * *

25 D. The state Department of Education shall report to the legislature by
26 January thirty-first annually relative to efforts to integrate trauma-informed
27 educational practices into schools.

1 E. The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adopt rules
 2 in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement the provisions
 3 of this Section.
 4 Section 2. The Department of Education shall begin implementing R.S. 17:407.22.1
 5 as enacted by this Act in fiscal year 2022-2023.

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 921 Original

2022 Regular Session

McFarland

Abstract: Requires the integration of trauma-informed educational practices into early childhood education.

Trauma-informed family outreach

Present law defines "adverse childhood experiences" and "trauma-informed education" in the context of school employees and best practices for schools and classrooms. Proposed law adds "trauma-informed family outreach" to the definitions. Further requires the state Dept. of Education (DOE) to annually report relative to efforts to integrate such concepts and practices into schools.

Pilot programs

Proposed law requires DOE to create and implement pilot programs integrating trauma-informed education and trauma-informed family outreach into early childhood education. Further requires DOE to annually report relative to the implementation of the programs.

Louisiana Early Childhood Education Fund

Present law provides for the La. Early Childhood Education Fund and for administration of the fund by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Provides that subject to legislative appropriation, monies in the funds shall be awarded annually to local entities approved by BESE according to specified parameters, conditions, and data.

Proposed law provides for use of monies from the fund for integrating trauma-informed educational practices into early childhood education efforts.

(Amends R.S. 17:407.30(E), (F), and (G) and 437.2(D); Adds R.S. 17:407.22.1, 407.30(H), and 437.2(A)(3) and (E))