

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 611

BY SENATOR PETERSON

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Requires BESE to transfer MFP funds to entities providing instruction to certain students preparing to take the General Education Development test. (8/1/12)

1 AN ACT
2 To enact 17:100.1.1, relative to preparation for the General Education Development test; to
3 provide for supervision of private providers by the Louisiana Community and
4 Technical College System; to provide with respect to provider eligibility
5 requirements; to provide with respect to student eligibility; to provide with respect
6 to Minimum Foundation Program funds; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:100.1.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 **§100.1.1. Alternative completer programs; eligibility based upon age; provider**
10 **approval; inclusion in minimum foundation formula**

11 **A.(1) Each student age sixteen through eighteen years who is enrolled**
12 **in an approved adult education program, as provided for in Subsection B of this**
13 **Section, providing instruction in preparing to take the General Education**
14 **Development (GED) test, shall be counted by the city, parish, or other local**
15 **public school board for the city or parish in which such program exists for**
16 **purposes of the minimum foundation program and any other state or federal**
17 **funding for which the student may be eligible. No other city, parish, or other**

1 local public school board shall include such a student in any count for purposes
2 of the minimum foundation program for any other available state or federal
3 funding for which the student may be eligible.

4 (2) Subject to the requirements of Subsection B of this Section, the
5 Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) may contract for
6 the provision of educational services for students described in Paragraph (1) of
7 this Subsection.

8 B. Private providers of programs of instruction to students preparing
9 to taking the GED test shall be approved by LCTCS and the State Board of
10 Elementary and Secondary Education (board) as providers of such programs
11 pursuant to standards established by LCTCS and the board before a contract
12 as authorized by this Section may be entered into by LCTCS.

13 C.(1) Each student enrolled in a program approved pursuant to
14 Subsection B of this Section under the jurisdiction of LCTCS shall be included
15 by the board in the development of each year's minimum foundation program
16 formula.

17 (2) Each student described in Paragraph (A)(1) of this Section enrolled
18 in an approved program shall be provided for and funded at one hundred
19 percent of the state share per pupil amount as provided in the approved
20 minimum foundation program formula for the city, parish, or other local public
21 school system in which the student would otherwise have been enrolled, as
22 contained in the budget letter approved by the board, and the board shall
23 allocate such funds to the provider of the approved program.

24 (3) In addition to the allocation of the state share per pupil amount
25 provided for in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, the city, parish, or other local
26 public school system in which the student would have otherwise been enrolled
27 shall allocate and transfer to the approved program from which the student is
28 receiving services an amount of money equal to the local share per pupil amount
29 allocated by the system times the number of such students under the supervision

1 of the LCTCS. The board shall provide for the transfer of the local share per
 2 pupil amount from the appropriate city, parish, or other local public school
 3 system to the approved program provider.

4 (4) Each provider of an approved program pursuant to this Section shall
 5 expend all minimum foundation program funds allocated to it pursuant to this
 6 Subsection to provide services to the students receiving its services.

7 (5) The board, in collaboration with the LCTCS, shall develop a method
 8 to identify the number of students eligible for funding each year pursuant to
 9 this Section.

10 D. Providers of programs approved pursuant to this Section shall be
 11 supervised by the LCTCS, and shall have demonstrated a proven record of
 12 student progress in the attainment of basic skills and essential competencies as
 13 determined by quality indicators and performance-based criteria developed and
 14 adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges in
 15 accordance with R.S. 17:3217.1(D)(2).

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

DIGEST

Proposed law requires that any student ages 16 through 18 who enrolled in an approved program providing preparation for the General Education Development (GED) test, to be counted by the city, parish, or other local public school board for the city or parish such program exists for purposes of the minimum foundation program (MFP) and any other state or federal funding for which the student may be eligible. Provides that no other city, parish, or other local public school board shall include such a student in any count for purposes of the MFP for any other available state or federal funding for which the student may be eligible.

Proposed law authorizes the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) to contract with private entities to provide programs and requires such providers to be approved by LCTCS and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), pursuant to standards established by LCTCS and the board, before a contract may be entered into by LCTCS.

Proposed law requires that each student enrolled in an approved program under the jurisdiction of LCTCS be included by BESE in the MFP formula.

Proposed law requires that each student enrolled in such an approved program shall be provided for and funded at 100% of the state share per pupil amount as provided in the MFP formula for the city, parish, or other local public school system in which the student would otherwise have been enrolled, as contained in the budget letter approved by the board.

Provides that the board shall allocate such funds to the provider of the approved program.

Proposed law provides that in addition to the allocation of the state share per pupil amount, the city, parish, or other local public school system in which the student would have otherwise been enrolled shall allocate and transfer to the approved program provider from which the student is receiving services an amount of money equal to the local share per pupil amount allocated by the system times the number of students enrolled in the approved program under the supervision of the LCTCS. Requires BESE to provide for the transfer of the local share per pupil amount from the appropriate city, parish, or other local public school system to the provider of the approved program.

Proposed law requires each provider of an approved program to expend all MFP funds allocated to it to provide services to the students receiving its services.

Proposed law requires BESE and LCTCS to develop a method to identify the number of students eligible for funding each year.

Proposed law requires LCTCS to supervise providers of approved programs and requires such providers to have demonstrated a proven record of student progress in the attainment of basic skills and essential competencies as determined by quality indicators and performance-based criteria developed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges.

Effective August 1, 2012

(Adds R.S. 17:100.1.1)