

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1144 (Substitute for House Bill No. 302 by Representative Leger)

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGER, BOUIE, BROADWATER, STEVE CARTER, AND HALL

HEALTH/CHILDREN: Requires public school students entering kindergarten and sixth grade to provide documentation of completion of a wellness evaluation

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:173 and 3996(B)(4), relative to student health evaluations; to require public  
3 school students entering kindergarten and grade six to provide documentation of a  
4 wellness evaluation; to provide requirements for such evaluations; to provide for  
5 exceptions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:173 and 3996(B)(4) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §173. Wellness evaluations; documentation required for certain public school  
9 students; exceptions

10 A. Except as provided in Subsection C of this Section, each student entering  
11 kindergarten or grade six in any public school shall provide satisfactory evidence of  
12 completion of a wellness evaluation. The wellness evaluation shall:

13 (1) Be conducted by a person licensed or certified in Louisiana to provide  
14 healthcare services as a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.

15 (2) Be completed in accordance with the health guidelines for preventative  
16 care screenings and well-child visits established by the American Academy of  
17 Pediatrics.

18 (3) Be completed within twelve months prior to entering kindergarten or  
19 grade six, as applicable.

1           B. The principal of the public school shall be responsible for verifying  
2           receipt of the documentation required by Subsection A of this Section.

3           C. A student shall not be required to comply with the provisions of  
4           Subsection A of this Section if the student or his parent or legal guardian submits a  
5           written dissent to the principal.

6           D. Nothing in this Section shall be construed or implemented to require that  
7           a student or his parent or legal guardian provide any medical record or other  
8           information to the school other than the documentation required by Subsection A of  
9           this Section.

10   \*       \*       \*

11           §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

12   \*       \*       \*

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

20   \*       \*       \*

21           (4) Wellness evaluations, R.S. 17:173.

22   \*       \*       \*

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 1144 Original

2016 Regular Session

Leger

**Abstract:** Requires public school students entering kindergarten and grade six to provide documentation of a wellness evaluation. Provides for exceptions.

Proposed law requires each student entering kindergarten or grade six in any public school, including charter schools, to provide satisfactory evidence of a wellness evaluation that meets the following requirements:

- (1) Is conducted by a person licensed or certified in La. to provide healthcare services as a physician, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner.
- (2) Is completed in accordance with the health guidelines for preventative care screenings and well-child visits established by the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- (3) Is completed within 12 months prior to school entry.

Requires the principal of the public school to verify receipt of the evidence of completion of the wellness evaluation. Provides that a student is not required to submit such evidence if he or his parent or legal guardian submits a written dissent. Further provides that proposed law shall not be construed or implemented to require that a student or his parent or legal guardian provide any medical record or other information to the school other than the documentation required by proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 17:173 and 3996(B)(4))