

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 266

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

TOPS: Provides relative to core curriculum requirements for initial eligibility for a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students award

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:5025(3)(c) and (5), relative to high school core curriculum
3 requirements for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students; to remove computer
4 science courses as an alternative to foreign language; to add computer science
5 courses to the elective science courses; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:5025(3)(c) and (5) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
8 follows:

9 §5025. High school core curriculum requirements; Opportunity, Performance,
10 Honors Awards

11 To be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors Award pursuant
12 to this Chapter, a student shall have successfully completed a core curriculum which
13 consists of twenty units of high school course work as follows:

14 * * *

15 (3) Science - Four Units

16 * * *

17 (c) Two units chosen from the following: Computer Science, which shall be
18 in principles, coding, and programming and may include Computer Science I;
19 Computer Science II; Fundamentals of HTML, CSS, and JavaScript (Level 1);
20 Advanced JavaScript, Functional Programming, and Web Development (Level 2);

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS), a college scholarship program, including initial and continuing eligibility requirements. Provides that students are required to take either two units of foreign language that are in the same language or two units of computer science.

Proposed law removes the option to take two units of computer science in lieu of a foreign language and instead adds computer science to a list of accepted science electives. Present law requires two science electives in the TOPS-Opportunity, Performance, and Honors Award core curriculum.

Proposed law is applicable to those graduating in the 2027-2028 school year and thereafter.

(Amends R.S. 17:5025(3)(c) and (5))