

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 272

BY REPRESENTATIVE SMITH

SCHOOLS: Requires BESE to develop a letter grade system for alternative schools

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:10.1(G), relative to school accountability; to require the State Board of
3 Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a letter grade system for assigning
4 letter grades to alternative schools; to require that letter grades for alternative schools
5 be released and published at the same time and in the same manner as those for
6 public schools; to provide that the letter grade system used for public schools shall
7 not be applied to alternative schools; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:10.1(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §10.1. School and district accountability system; purpose; responsibilities of state
11 board; letter grades

12 * * *

13 G.(1) The provisions of Subsection F of this Section shall not be applied to
14 alternative schools approved by the state board.

15 (2) In addition to the requirements of Subsection F of this Section, the state
16 board shall develop a letter grade system for assigning a letter grade to each
17 approved alternative school as part of the school and district accountability system.
18 The letter grade system shall be reflective of school performance and shall be
19 designed specifically for alternative schools, taking into consideration the purpose
20 of these schools which serve a diverse student population and which are established

1 to meet the specific needs of students with special challenges that require educational
2 environments that are alternatives to the regular classroom. Letter grades for
3 alternative schools shall be released and published at the same time and in the same
4 manner as those for other public schools.

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)]

Smith

HB No. 272

Abstract: Requires BESE to develop a letter grade system for assigning letter grades to alternative schools that considers the unique purpose of such schools. Requires that letter grades for alternative schools be released and published at the same time and in the same manner as those for public schools.

Present law requires, as part of the school and district accountability system, that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) develop a letter grade system for assigning letter grades to each public school and school district that is reflective of performance. Requires that the letter grades be included in the school report cards compiled by the state Dept. of Education and distributed to parents and in any public release of school and district performance scores.

Proposed law retains present law but provides that present law shall not be applied to alternative schools approved by BESE. Proposed law requires BESE to develop a letter grade system for assigning letter grades to alternative schools which system reflects school performance and considers the unique purpose of such schools. Requires that letter grades for alternative schools be released and published at the same time and in the same manner as those for other public schools.

(Adds R.S. 17:10.1(G))