

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 656

BY REPRESENTATIVE EMERSON

STUDENTS: Provides relative to literacy screenings for students

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:182(B), relative to public elementary school students; to
3 provide relative to provisions that require each governing authority of a public
4 elementary school to implement a reading program at elementary school in
5 accordance with certain guidelines; to provide relative to certain reports; to authorize
6 the state Department of Education to extend deadlines for administration and reports;
7 and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:182(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

10 §182. Student reading skills; requirements; reports

11 * * *

12 B.(1) Not later than thirty days after the beginning of each school year, each
13 second grade ~~teacher~~ student and each third grade ~~teacher~~ student shall ~~report~~ be
14 administered a literacy screener to identify the number of students in the ~~teacher's~~
15 class who cannot read below, at, and above grade level. Students scoring above
16 grade level shall be considered for evaluation into a gifted program.

17 (2) Not later than forty-five days after the beginning of the school year, a
18 literacy screening report describing the number of students who read below, at, and
19 above grade level ~~Copies of this report~~ shall be sent simultaneously by ~~the~~ each
20 teacher to the principal of the school and to the system superintendent. The report

1 shall also include the number of children who were referred to gifted evaluation as
2 a result of their screening results.

3 ~~(2)~~ (3) Not later than sixty days after the beginning of each school year, the
4 information required to be submitted pursuant to Paragraph ~~(1)~~ (2) of this Subsection
5 shall be forwarded by each system superintendent to the state superintendent of
6 education and to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

7 ~~(3)~~ (4) Not later than ninety days after the beginning of each school year, the
8 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall compile and submit a
9 report to the House Committee on Education and to the Senate Committee on
10 Education showing for each public elementary school, for each school system, and
11 for the state as a whole the number of students in second or third grades in public
12 elementary schools who cannot read at grade level as determined pursuant to the
13 provisions of this Section. The data for each school, for each school system, and for
14 the state as a whole shall be reported in the school progress profiles provided for by
15 R.S. 17:3911 and 3912.

16 (5) In times of crisis or natural disasters, the state Department of Education
17 may extend deadlines for administration and reporting results of the screening
18 instruments required by this Subsection.

19 * * *

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 656 Original

2018 Regular Session

Emerson

Abstract: Provides relative to provisions that require each governing authority of a public elementary school to implement, and issue reports on, a reading program.

Present law provides that each governing authority of a public elementary school shall implement a reading program at each school that is designed and intended to teach each student to read at grade level by not later than the end of the first grade.

Present law provides that not later than 30 days after the beginning of each school year, each second grade teacher and each third grade teacher shall report the number of students in the teacher's class who cannot read at grade level. Provides that copies of this report shall be sent simultaneously by the teacher to the school's principal and to the system superintendent.

Proposed law changes requirement so that each second grade student and third grade student shall be administered a literacy screener to identify the number of students who read below, at, and above grade level. Provides that students scoring above grade level shall be considered for evaluation into a gifted program. Further provides that, not later than 45 days after the beginning of the school year, a literacy screening report describing the number of students who read below, at, and above grade level shall be sent simultaneously by the teacher to the principal of the school and to the system superintendent. Also provides that the report shall also include the number of children who were referred to gifted evaluation as a result of their screening results.

Present law provides that, not later than 60 days after the beginning of each school year, the information required to be submitted by the teachers shall be forwarded by each system superintendent to the state superintendent of education and to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that not later than 90 days after the beginning of each school year, BESE shall compile and submit a report to the House and Senate education committees showing for each public elementary school, for each school system, and for the state as a whole the number of students in second or third grade who cannot read at grade level. Specifies that the data shall be reported in school progress profiles. Proposed law retains present law and authorizes state Department of Education, in times of crisis or natural disasters, to extend deadlines for administration and reporting results of the screening instruments.

(Amends R.S. 17:182(B))