

SENATE BILL NO. 297

BY SENATORS DONAHUE, APPEL, CROWE, DUPLESSIS, MARTINY AND QUINN  
AND REPRESENTATIVES BOBBY BADON, HENRY BURNS, TIM  
BURNS, CARMODY, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CONNICK,  
GISCLAIR, HARDY, HOFFMANN, KATZ, LABRUZZO, LIGI,  
NOWLIN, RICHARD, ROBIDEAUX, SIMON, SMILEY, WILLIAMS  
AND WOOTON

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:221(I) and R.S. 36:649(D), to enact R.S. 17:1871(B)(8) and  
3217.1(D), and to repeal R.S. 17:14, relative to adult education; to provide for the  
school attendance of certain students in adult education programs; to eliminate the  
division of adult and community education within the Department of Education; to  
transfer the responsibility for the provision of adult education programs from the  
State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to the Board of Supervisors for  
Community and Technical Colleges and to provide with respect thereto; to provide  
for the powers, duties, and functions of the Board of Supervisors of Community and  
Technical Colleges; to provide for an effective date of such transfer; and to provide  
for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:221(I) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:1871(B)(8)  
and 3217.1(D) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§221. School attendance; compulsory ages; duty of parents; excessive absences;  
consent to withdraw; condition for driving privileges

\* \* \*

I. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit a child who is at least sixteen years  
of age ~~and~~ , who meets criteria established by the State Board of Elementary and

1 Secondary Education for enrolling in an **effective** adult education program, ~~that is~~  
 2 ~~approved by the board~~ from enrolling in and attending such a program. A parent,  
 3 tutor, or other person responsible for the school attendance of a child who is at least  
 4 sixteen years of age but under age eighteen and who is enrolled in and is fulfilling  
 5 the attendance requirements of an adult education program ~~that is approved by the~~  
 6 ~~board~~ shall be considered to be in compliance with the school attendance provisions  
 7 of Paragraph (A)(1) of this Section. As used in this Subsection, an "effective adult  
 8 education program" means an approved program that has demonstrated a  
 9 proven record of student progress in the attainment of basic skills and essential  
 10 competencies as determined by quality indicators and performance-based  
 11 criteria developed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Community and  
 12 Technical Colleges in accordance with R.S. 17:3217.1(D)(2).

\* \* \*

13 §1871. Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges; establishment;  
 14 members; qualifications and terms; vacancies; duties

\* \* \*

B. The board shall:

\* \* \*

17 (8) Beginning July 1, 2010 and thereafter, establish, operate, and  
 18 maintain a statewide adult education program and adopt such regulations as  
 19 may be necessary for the provision of such program.

\* \* \*

20 §3217.1. Louisiana Community and Technical ~~Colleges system~~ College System

\* \* \*

21 D.(1) Beginning July 1, 2010 and thereafter, the board of supervisors  
 22 shall:

23 (a) Adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary to establish,  
 24 operate, and maintain a statewide program of adult education to eliminate adult  
 25 illiteracy and to provide opportunities for adults to pursue a course or courses  
 26 of study which upon completion will entitle them to be issued a Louisiana high  
 27 school diploma.

1 school equivalency diploma.

2 (b) Fully fund the cost of a statewide adult education program and shall  
3 allocate such funds appropriated therefor based on an adopted formula.

4 (2) Each program of adult education shall meet eligibility criteria  
5 established and adopted by the board and be subject to the overall  
6 administration and supervision provided by this Subsection. Quality indicators  
7 and performance-based criteria, as established and adopted by the board, shall  
8 be used to allocate funds on an annual basis.

9 \* \* \*

10 Section 2. R.S. 36:649(D) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §649. Offices; purposes and functions relating to elementary and secondary  
12 education

13 \* \* \*

14 D. The office of school and community support shall perform the functions  
15 of the state relating to student, school, and community health and nutrition programs,  
16 and transportation, ~~community adult training programs, and postsecondary and~~  
17 ~~workforce development~~ programs, all in accordance with applicable law.

18 Section 3. R.S. 17:14 is hereby repealed.

19 Section 4. The Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges shall  
20 succeed the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education as the supervising and  
21 managing board for adult education programs in Louisiana. The adult education content  
22 standards and benchmarks set forth in the Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 28, Part  
23 CXXIX by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, shall be deemed to be  
24 the adult education content standards and benchmarks of the Louisiana Community and  
25 Technical College System on July 1, 2010 and thereafter for the purposes of R.S.  
26 17:3217.1(D), until such time as the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical  
27 Colleges promulgates rules and regulations in accordance with Administrative Procedure Act  
28 regarding the same, to ensure a smooth transition in effectuating and implementing the  
29 provisions of this Act.

30 Section 5. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2010; if vetoed by the governor

1 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,  
2 2010, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_