



# THE BULLETIN BOARD

NEWSLETTER OF CITIZENS FOR EDUCATIONAL CHOICE

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## Louisiana Supreme Court Rules on Scholarship Funding

### Parents and Students Rally at the State Capitol

In a ruling on May 7, the Louisiana Supreme Court affirmed the constitutionality of publicly funding scholarships for children attending private schools, but declared unconstitutional the use of monies from the *Minimum Foundation Program*—the state formula for funding public education—to fund the scholarships. Prior to 2012 funding for the *Student Scholarships for Excellence in Education* program was appropriated in the state's general fund. The lawsuit was brought by the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, the Louisiana Association of Educators and the Louisiana School Boards Association.

The Jindal Administration is committed to funding the program through the end of this school year via another legislative instrument and to finding a source for future funding.

Nearly 5,000 students are currently enrolled from among 10,300 applications. The scholarship program is extremely popular with parents, and a survey conducted by parental choice allies the Black Alliance for Educational Options and the Louisiana Federation for Children found a 93% satisfactory rate. The state anticipates an enrollment of 8,000 in the program next year.

Understandably, parents are worried about whether the program will continue for their children. On May 15 more than 1,000 scholarship students and parents rallied at the State Capitol to sound a "voice for parental choice" in an event cosponsored by BAEO and LFC. Gov. Bobby Jindal addressed the crowd. Others were Sen. Elbert Guillory, Rep. Patrick Jefferson, Rep. Patrick Williams and Louisiana Superintendent of Education John White.



CEC will be lobbying legislators with this message: "Keep the promises you made to these students. Fund the scholarship program this school year and the next one."

### Legislative Bills We're Tracking

#### HB 1 (Fannin) / State Operating Budget

Funding has not been reduced for *Required Services*, *School Food Service Salary Supplements* and *Textbooks*.

#### HB 212 (Brossett) / Digital Campus Mapping

The author accepted our amendments for defining "hazards." Private schools will have to provide digital campus blueprints to local emergency responders.

#### HB 230 (Pope) / Scholarship Eligibility

This bill would have changed a requirement for kindergarten students entering the scholarship program to the criterion used in grades 1-12. The bill was defeated in committee.

#### HB 314 (James) / Social Media Privacy Protection

Due to our concerns with this legislation the author amended private schools out of the bill when it was heard in the House Commerce Committee.

#### HB 718 (Hensgens) / School Crisis Management

This public school bill was filed in reaction to the Newtown, CT school shooting. There was movement to include private schools, and the author agreed to our request for an amendment that would steer the private school piece to BESE's Nonpublic School Council.

#### SB 202 (Nevers) / TOPS Curriculum Revision

This bill is tied into the new Core 4 Curriculum. This legislation would encourage students to take more Advanced Placement courses. CEC succeeded in getting the bill amended to add Biology II or Chemistry II to the list of accepted courses.

#### SB 222 (Walsworth) / Day Care Licensing

We successfully got a BESE Nonpublic School Council member added to the new committee charged with implementing this law.

**Sign up for VoterVoice!**

A quick and easy way to influence your legislator's vote is with *VoterVoice*, CEC's email advocacy system. It's easy to sign on and use, and you may unsubscribe at any time. Go to our website at [www.louisianacec.org](http://www.louisianacec.org) and follow the link and instructions. When your help is needed on a particular bill you will receive an email alert with verbiage you may use to advocate in behalf of private and parochial schools. Sign up today!

**Thank you for your support!**

Thanks to all who remitted 2012-13 CEC dues, and a special thank-you to those with multiple memberships!

If your school or parent club has not yet paid this year's dues it's not too late to do so and be included in our end-of-year membership roster. If you're not sure about your current status visit the membership page on our website.

### Louisiana CEC 2012-13 Membership Form

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Individual/Family    \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Individual/Family Supporting  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$250 School/Parent Club/Booster Club/Church

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School / Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City / Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**LOUISIANA LEGISLATORS  
2013 SESSION**

<u>DIST #</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>DIST #</u>	<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>NAME</u>
<b><u>SENATORS</u></b>			<b><u>REPRESENTATIVES, cont'd</u></b>		
6	Baton Rouge	Sen. Bodi White	59	Gonzales	Rep. Eddie Lambert
14	Baton Rouge	Sen. Yvonne Dorsey-Colomb	58	Gonzales	Rep. Ed Price
15	Baton Rouge	Sen. Sharon Weston Broome	81	Gonzales	Rep. Clay Schexnayder
16	Baton Rouge	Sen. Dan Claitor	51	Gray	Rep. Joe Harrison
36	Benton	Sen. Robert Adley	85	Gretna	Rep. Bryan Adams
12	Bogalusa	Sen. Ben Nevers	86	Hammond	Rep. Chris Broadwater
37	Bossier City	Sen. Barrow Peacock	87	Harvey	Rep. Girod Jackson
32	Columbia	Sen. Neil Riser	9	Haughton	Rep. Henry Burns
34	Delhi	Sen. Francis Thompson	11	Homer	Rep. Patrick Jefferson
21	Franklin	Sen. Bret Allain	52	Houma	Rep. Gordon Dove
18	Gonzales	Sen. Jody Amedee	53	Houma	Rep. Lenar Whitney
20	Houma	Sen. Norby Chabert	62	Jackson	Rep. Kenny Havard
25	Jennings	Sen. Blade Morrish	37	Jennings	Rep. John Guin
26	Kaplan	Sen. Jonathan Perry	13	Jonesboro	Rep. James Fannin
38	Keithville	Sen. Sherri Smith Buffington	92	Kenner	Rep. Tom Willmott
23	Lafayette	Sen. Page Cortez	43	Lafayette	Rep. Stuart Bishop
27	Lake Charles	Sen. Ronnie Johns	31	Lafayette	Rep. Nancy Landry
30	Leesville	Sen. John Smith	44	Lafayette	Rep. Vincent Pierre
13	Livingston	Sen. Dale Erdey	45	Lafayette	Rep. Joel Robideaux
11	Mandeville	Sen. Jack Donahue	34	Lake Charles	Rep. A.B. Franklin
9	Metairie	Sen. Conrad Appel	35	Lake Charles	Rep. Brett Geymann
10	Metairie	Sen. Danny Martiny	36	Lake Charles	Rep. Chuck Kleckley
35	Monroe	Sen. Bob Kostelka	57	LaPlace	Rep. Randal Gaines
2	Napoleonville	Sen. Troy Brown	54	Larose	Rep. Jerry "Truck" Gisclair
22	New Iberia	Sen. Fred Mills	30	Leesville	Rep. James Armes
3	New Orleans	Sen. J.P. Morrell	95	Livingston	Rep. Sherman Mack
4	New Orleans	Sen. Edwin Murray	89	Mandeville	Rep. Tim Burns
5	New Orleans	Sen. Karen Carter Peterson	24	Many	Rep. Frankie Howard
7	New Orleans	Sen. David Heitmeier	28	Marksville	Rep. Robert Johnson
19	Norco	Sen. Gary Smith	84	Marrero	Rep. Patrick Connick
24	Opelousas	Sen. Elbert Guillory	82	Metairie	Rep. Cameron Henry
1	Pearl River	Sen. A.G. Crowe	80	Metairie	Rep. Joseph Lopinto
17	Port Allen	Sen. Rick Ward	79	Metairie	Rep. Julie Stokes
29	Ruston	Sen. Rick Gallot	10	Minden	Rep. Gene Reynolds
39	Shreveport	Sen. Gregory Tarver	17	Monroe	Rep. Marcus Hunter
28	Ville Platte	Sen. Eric LaFleur	16	Monroe	Rep. Katrina Jackson
33	West Monroe	Sen. Mike Walsworth	14	Monroe	Rep. John Morris
8	Westwego	Sen. John Alario	23	Natchitoches	Rep. Kenny Cox
31	Winnfield	Sen. Gerald Long	48	New Iberia	Rep. Taylor Barras
<b><u>REPRESENTATIVES</u></b>			96	New Iberia	Rep. Terry Landry
47	Abbeville	Rep. Bob Hensgens	98	New Orleans	Rep. Neil Abramson
74	Abita Springs	Rep. Scott Simon	102	New Orleans	Rep. Jeff Arnold
26	Alexandria	Rep. Herbert Dixon	100	New Orleans	Rep. Austin Badon
25	Alexandria	Rep. Lance Harris	99	New Orleans	Rep. Wesley Bishop
72	Amite	Rep. John Bel Edwards	97	New Orleans	Rep. Jared Brossett
29	Baton Rouge	Rep. Regina Barrow	91	New Orleans	Rep. Walt Leger
68	Baton Rouge	Rep. Steve Carter	94	New Orleans	Rep. Nick Lorusso
70	Baton Rouge	Rep. Franklin Foil	93	New Orleans	Rep. Helena Moreno
66	Baton Rouge	Rep. Hunter Greene	76	New Orleans	Rep. Kevin Pearson
63	Baton Rouge	Rep. Dalton Honore	18	New Roads	Rep. Major Thibaut
65	Baton Rouge	Rep. Barry Ivey	56	Norco	Rep. Gregory Miller
101	Baton Rouge	Rep. Ted James	1	Oil City	Rep. Jim Morris
69	Baton Rouge	Rep. Erich Ponti	40	Opelousas	Rep. Ledricka Thierry
67	Baton Rouge	Rep. Patricia Smith	27	Pineville	Rep. Chris Hazel
61	Baton Rouge	Rep. Alfred Williams	60	Plaquemine	Rep. Karen St. Germain
105	Belle Chasse	Rep. Chris Leopold	73	Ponchatoula	Rep. Steve Pugh
75	Bogalusa	Rep. Harold Ritchie	19	Rayville	Rep. Charles "Bubba" Chaney
8	Bossier City	Rep. Jeff Thompson	78	River Ridge	Rep. Kirk Talbot
46	Breaux Bridge	Rep. Mike Huval	12	Ruston	Rep. Rob Shadoin
39	Carencro	Rep. Stephen Ortego	2	Shreveport	Rep. Roy Burrell
103	Chalmette	Rep. Ray Garofalo	6	Shreveport	Rep. Thomas Carmody
22	Colfax	Rep. Terry Brown	3	Shreveport	Rep. Barbara Norton
104	Covington	Rep. Paul Hollis	5	Shreveport	Rep. Alan Seabaugh
77	Covington	Rep. John Schroder	4	Shreveport	Rep. Patrick Williams
42	Crowley	Rep. Jack Montoucet	90	Slidell	Rep. Greg Cromer
64	Denham Springs	Rep. Valarie Hodges	7	Stonewall	Rep. Richard Burford
71	Denham Springs	Rep. Rogers Pope	33	Sulphur	Rep. Mike Danahay
32	Dry Creek	Rep. Dorothy Sue Hill	55	Thibodaux	Rep. Jerome "Dee" Richard
49	Erath	Rep. Simone Champagne	21	Vidalia	Rep. Andy Anders
41	Eunice	Rep. Mickey Guillory	38	Ville Platte	Rep. Bernard LeBas
50	Franklin	Rep. Sam Jones	15	West Monroe	Rep. Frank Hoffmann
88	Gonzales	Rep. Johnny Berthelot	83	Westwego	Rep. Robert Billiot
			20	Winnsboro	Rep. Steven Pylant