

HB40
Representative
Garofalo
SB36
Senator Fields

TOPS Adjustments

to address COVID-19 and Hurricane Laura needs

THE GOAL

The bill seeks to clarify some provisions and codify into statute Proclamation No. 124, which called for the waiver of certain initial and continuing TOPS eligibility requirements necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic and/or Hurricane Laura and allows for streamlining of additional decision-making related to COVID-19 and/or Hurricane Laura.

THE CHALLENGE

Changes to the TOPS program should be made and/or codified into law. Also, should any additional changes stemming from Hurricane Laura or COVID-19 be needed, the Board of Regents and LOSFA should have the ability to act swiftly and appropriately in response.

THE OPPORTUNITY

- Provides that 2020 graduates have until December 31, 2020 to receive a qualifying ACT score for TOPS, without penalty since testing dates continue to be canceled across the nation.
- Suspends residency requirements for high school students in parishes impacted by Hurricane Laura.
- Suspends certain core requirements for the 2020-2021 academic year, for students attending schools impacted by Hurricane Laura.
- Allows Regents and LOSFA to make timely decisions and announcements. Swift notice of emergency TOPS changes and exceptions will reduce anxiety for students and their parents who are already suffering from the impacts of Hurricane Laura and/or COVID-19.

18,403

Class of 2019
TOPS Awards
recipients



BOARD of REGENTS
STATE OF LOUISIANA