



2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature Summary of Education Bills

The Louisiana Legislature convened at noon on March 29, 2010 for its regular session. Listed below are summaries of education, school and student-related bills that will be considered this session. Please refer to www.legis.state.la.us for more information.

House Bills

House Bill No. 46

Date Filed: 2/26/2010

Who: Representative Nita Rusich Hutter

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 321.

Summary: This bill requires public school governing authorities to provide to students in grades seven through 12 enrolled in Health Education age and grade appropriate classroom instruction relative to dating violence. Also provides guidelines for such instruction.

House Bill No. 50

Date Filed: 2/16/2010

Who: Representative Charles R. Chaney

Status: Voluntarily deferred on 4/21/10, to be turned into a study resolution. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill changes membership composition of textbook adoption committees and requires BESE to establish a new procedure for public inspection and review of textbooks under consideration for state adoption.

House Bill No. 78

Date Filed: 3/4/2010

Who: Representative Anthony V. Ligi, Jr.

Status: Passed by House as amended on 4/28/10. Deferred by Senate & Governmental Affairs on 6/9/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides for certain adjudications and hearings functions of the departments of health and hospitals (DHH), social services (DSS), and education (DOE) to be transferred to the division of administrative law, except where the delegation of such functions and adjudications is specifically prohibited by federal law.

House Bill No. 151

Date Filed: 3/4/2010

Who: Representative Thomas G. Carmody, Jr.

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 460.

Summary: This bill authorizes the Bossier and Caddo parish school boards, in accordance with specified guidelines and limitations, to transport to school any student who resides one mile or less

from the school. This is in addition to the 15 specified local public school boards which already have this authority.

House Bill No. 177

Date Filed: 3/8/2010

Who: Representative J. Rogers Pope

Status: Reported without action by House Education. Deferred by House Appropriations on 6/7/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires the state to pay the cost of transporting students attending approved nonpublic schools.

House Bill No. 186

Date Filed: 3/8/2010

Who: Representative Rickey Hardy

Status: Deferred by House Education on 5/5/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to adopt a policy requiring at least a "C" average for public school students in grades six through 12 to participate in interscholastic athletics and other extracurricular activities. This expands current law, which applies solely to athletics. It also changes the minimum from the La. High School Athletic Assoc. 1984 scholastic rule (relative to minimum academic requirements, including a 1.5 grade point average) to the aforesaid "C" standard.

House Bill No. 210

Date Filed: 3/9/2010

Who: Representative Walt Leger, III

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill establishes and provides for the La. Statewide Education Facilities Authority.

See also: SB 584

House Bill No. 216

Date Filed: 3/9/2010

Who: Representatives Franklin J. Foil (primary) & Patrick C. Williams

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 515.

Summary: This bill establishes the School Choice Pilot Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities in certain parishes beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. Provides program eligibility requirements for students and participating nonpublic schools. Provides for program administration and implementation by the state Dept. of Education.

House Bill No. 251

Date Filed: 3/10/2010

Who: Signed by the Governor; became Act 323.

Summary: This bill requires the state superintendent of education, at a minimum, to possess at the time of appointment the qualifications adopted by BESE to be a superintendent of a local school board. Authorizes BESE to establish additional qualifications for the state superintendent.

House Bill No. 257

Date Filed: 3/10/2010

Who: Representative Joe Harrison

Status: Reported favorably by House Education on 5/12/10. Failed to pass the House on 5/18/10; being reconsidered. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires local school boards to expend not less than 5% of the gross proceeds received by the school system during each school year from the conduct of extracurricular athletic activities and programs to provide academic tutoring throughout the subsequent school year to certain student athletes enrolled in the school system.

House Bill No. 274

Date Filed: 3/10/2010

Who: Representative J. Rogers Pope

Status: Deferred by House Appropriations on 6/7/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides for the appropriation of funds for the state reimbursement to school boards for the payment of salary adjustments for nationally certified teachers, school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and school speech-language pathologists.

House Bill No. 303

Date Filed: 3/11/2010

Who: Representative Cameron Henry (Primary Author) and 17 others

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 691.

Summary: This bill provides relative to eligibility of students in state-approved home study programs to participate in interscholastic athletics at secondary schools that are members of the LHSAA. Provides guidelines, procedures, and limitations relative to such participation.

House Bill No. 388

Date Filed: 3/12/2010

Who: Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 324.

Summary: This bill provides that the statutory requirement that a local school board grant a leave of absence, not to exceed three years, to any employee in its school system requesting such leave in order to be employed in a charter school shall be in effect through June 30, 2010. Provides also that the transfer of a local school board employee to a Type 4 charter school shall be governed by the transfer policy of the local school board.

House Bill No. 399

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative J. Kevin Pearson

Status: Voluntarily deferred on 4/20/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill exempts, under specified fiscal circumstances, a local school board from complying with the statutory requirement that the board grant certain sabbatical leave requests.

House Bill No. 400

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative J. Kevin Pearson

Status: Voluntarily deferred on 4/20/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill exempts, under specified fiscal circumstances, a local school board from complying with statutory requirements that the board permit each teacher, school bus operator, and other employee (who is not a teacher or whose employment does not require the holding of a teacher's certificate or who is not employed as a bus driver) to take up to 90 days of extended sick leave.

House Bill No. 403

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative J. Kevin Pearson

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 697.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to broadcast all regular, special, and committee meetings over the internet and further requires all such broadcasts to be archived and made accessible for at least one year after the date of the meeting.

House Bill No. 405

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Herbert B. Dixon

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 698.

Summary: This bill requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to adopt rules and regulations for the use of seclusion, physical restraint, or both, of students.

House Bill No. 409

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Joe Harrison

Status: Deferred by House & Governmental Affairs on 4/7/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides term limits for members of city, parish, and other local elected public school boards.

House Bill No. 410

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Stephen F. Carter

Status: Passed by House on 4/14/10. Deferred by Senate & Governmental Affairs on 5/12/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides for an election in most local school districts to determine whether the members of the school board in each respective district shall have term limits of three consecutive four-year terms.

House Bill No. 420

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Walt Leger, III

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 370.

Summary: This bill relative to the use of certain local revenues for computing and allocating the per pupil amount provided to all charter schools, specifies use of current year rather than prior year amounts in such computations and allocations. Also deletes provision requiring certain minimum per pupil funding pursuant to the most recent legislatively approved MFP formula.

House Bill No. 421

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Michael L. Jackson

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 699.

Summary: This bill prohibits a local school board from denying admission or readmission to school of any student of suitable age who resides within the geographic boundaries of the school system unless such student is legally excluded from attending school. Also deletes provisions relative to a pilot program to reduce the number of children exhibiting poor school attendance habits.

House Bill No. 422

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Hollis Downs

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill deletes exemption from compulsory school attendance laws for children deemed to be mentally, physically, or emotionally unable to perform school duties or unable to profit from school experience.

House Bill No. 425

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Frank A. Hoffmann

Status: Deferred by House Education on 4/20/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides relative to employment experience necessary for certain principals to be exempt from certain certification requirements and authorizes the state Dept. of Education to collect fees related to certain certification services.

House Bill No. 433

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Rickey Hardy

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 701.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to develop and implement a uniform grading scale for public schools to be enforced by school governing authorities and local superintendents and to appoint a task force to provide recommendations relative to such grading scale.

House Bill No. 468

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Frank A. Hoffmann

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 470.

Summary: This bill adds certified school nurses to list of school employees eligible for sabbatical leave.

House Bill No. 486

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Joe Harrison

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 704.

Summary: This bill requires school guidance counselors to complete academic profiles for each ninth grade student and specifies certain information to be included in the profiles. Provides for student and parental involvement.

House Bill No. 488

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Joe Harrison

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 705.

Summary: This bill requires members of local public school boards to receive certain training, provides for the designation of "Distinguished School Board Member" for members completing certain training, and requires release to the board's official journal of certain information about training completed and members receiving the designation.

House Bill No. 489

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Joe Harrison

Status: Involuntarily deferred in House Education on 5/26/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill abolishes BESE, transfers its functions to the state superintendent of education, provides for appointment of superintendent by governor, provides for proposal of MFP formula by superintendent, and permits legislative amendment of MFP formula.

House Bill No. 529

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

Status: Failed final passage in the House on 5/17/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires rather than authorizes sex education in public schools.

House Bill No. 561

Date Filed: 3/16/2010

Who: Representative Damon J. Baldone

Status: Failed final passage in the House on 5/17/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides that certain educational diagnosticians who hold a valid La. teaching certificate, state educational diagnostician certification, and the Nationally Certified Educational Diagnostician (NCED) credential are eligible to receive an annual salary supplement of \$5,000 (subject to appropriation of funds).

House Bill No. 565

Date Filed: 3/16/2010

Who: Representative Rickey Hardy

Status: Reported favorably by House Education on 5/26/10. Tabled on 6/7/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides that the provisions of state law relative to the acquisition of tenure by school bus operators (becoming permanent employees) shall not be applicable to any operator whose date of first employment with the school system is July 1, 2010, or thereafter. Also provides relative to removal of certain operators.

House Bill No. 580

Date Filed: 3/16/2010

Who: Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 325.

Summary: This bill designates the La. School for the Deaf, the La. School for the Visually Impaired, and the La. Special Education Center as "Board Special Schools" (under the jurisdiction of BESE); authorizes such schools to share services and functions under certain conditions; and allows for the enrollment in such schools of children with orthopedic impairments.

House Bill No. 633

Date Filed: 3/16/2010

Who: Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

Status: Voluntarily deferred on 4/28/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill increases period of paid sick leave for certain school support workers injured or disabled under certain circumstances.

House Bill No. 648

Date Filed: 3/16/2010

Who: Representative Sam Jones

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 927.

Summary: This bill repeals provisions allowing certain 17 year olds to withdraw from school.

House Bill No. 658

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Harold L. Ritchie

Status: Assigned to House Retirement. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires membership in the Teachers' Retirement System of La. (TRSL) for charter school teachers.

House Bill No. 681

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Rickey Hardy

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides that the conduct of extracurricular interscholastic activities in public schools, including interscholastic athletic activities, shall be subject to regulation by BESE by rule adopted in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. Provides precedence for any such rule.

House Bill No. 682

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Rickey Hardy

Status: Deferred by House Education on 5/26/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires a local school board to provide transportation to suspended or expelled students who remain under its jurisdiction in BESE-approved alternative education programs for such students.

House Bill No. 685

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Sam Jones

Status: Passed by House and Senate. Vetoed by the Governor on 7/2/10.

Summary: This bill raises minimum age at which certain children may attend BESE-approved adult education programs rather than attending school from 16 to 17.

House Bill No. 709

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Jared C. Brossett

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 525.

Summary: This bill provides relative to the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA).

House Bill No. 729

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Thomas G. Carmody, Jr.

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 526.

Summary: This bill provides relative to the minimum bid when a school board is selling surplus property as follows: 85% of appraised value at 1st attempt to sell, 80% of appraised value at second attempt to sell, and no minimum bid at third attempt. Present law provides that appraised value is the minimum for which property may be sold.

House Bill No. 732

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Barbara M. Norton

Status: Deferred by House Education on 4/14/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill prohibits corporal punishment in public elementary and secondary schools.

House Bill No. 739

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Representative Frank A. Hoffmann

Status: Passed by House as amended on 4/29/10. Deferred by Senate Education on 5/20/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill, regarding the employment (on or after July 1, 2010) as a full-time teacher of a member of TRSL who is retired, provides relative to salary amounts, the use of employment contracts, and dismissal or discharge. Provides certain options on such matters to a retiree reemployed prior to July 1, 2010, and provides that such option shall be exercised by not later than July 1, 2011.

House Bill No. 788

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Rickey L. Nowlin

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides that LSMSA shall admit primarily sophomores, juniors, and seniors instead of just juniors and seniors.

House Bill No. 909

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Austin J. Badon, Jr.

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires the Orleans Parish School Board to pay for certain retirees and for their family members and dependents not less than 75% of the annual premium costs for participating in the board's group health insurance plan.

House Bill No. 916

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Austin J. Badon, Jr.

Status: Withdrawn.

Summary: This bill, relative to the Dept. of Education and the Dept. of Social Services, establishes the Early Childhood School Readiness Accountability Program.

House Bill No. 920

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Stephen F. Carter

Status: Withdrawn.

Summary: This bill provides relative to tenured teachers; specifies "incompetency" as used in the statute and requires certain remediation prior to removal of a tenured teacher.

House Bill No. 923

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Walt Leger, III

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 717.

Summary: This bill authorizes the Recovery School District to contract with outside counsel for the purpose of obtaining legal services related to the utilization of the New Market Tax Credits.

House Bill No. 925

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Austin J. Badon, Jr. (Primary Author) and 17 others

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 718.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to establish a letter grade system reflective of school and district performance.

See also: SB 302

House Bill No. 942

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Stephen F. Carter

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 720.

Summary: This bill provides relative to hiring and removal of a local school superintendent.

Provides relative to responsibilities of the local school board and the superintendent for personnel matters.

House Bill No. 950

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Walt Leger, III

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill authorizes the Recovery School District to borrow money and to issue debt instruments.

House Bill No. 962

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Stephen F. Carter (Primary Author) and 25 others

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 722.

Summary: This bill, regarding charter schools, provides relative to the process for submission, review, and approval of charter school proposals, for the renewal of charter agreements, and for the use by charter schools of facilities and property under the control of a local school board.

See also: SB 344

House Bill No. 969

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative J. Kevin Pearson

Status: Deferred by House & Governmental Affairs on 4/7/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires that a person possess a high school diploma or its equivalent and, if the person is a school board member, that he has received certain mandatory training to be eligible for membership on a school board. Changes the requirement that the person has been a resident in the state for two years prior to qualifying to a requirement that the person has been a resident in the parish for two years prior to qualifying.

House Bill No. 970

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Scott M. Simon

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill includes students educated in secure facilities under the jurisdiction of the office of juvenile justice in the MFP.

House Bill No. 974

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Representative Frank A. Hoffmann

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 326.

Summary: This bill provides relative to employment experience necessary for certain principals to be exempt from certain certification requirements.

House Bill No. 982

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Frank A. Hoffmann

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides that, beginning with the 2011-12 school year, LEAP testing shall begin no earlier than May 1st.

House Bill No. 1003

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Jane H. Smith (Primary Author) and 26 others

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides a waiver program under which BESE may exempt school districts from various laws, rules, and regulations if the school district demonstrates how such a waiver will increase the quality of instruction and improve student academic achievement. Also known as the "Red Tape Reduction Waiver Program."

See also: SB 695, HB 1368

House Bill No. 1006

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Joe Harrison

Status: Deferred by House & Governmental Affairs on 4/20/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides that the office of state superintendent of education shall be an elective rather than an appointed office. Provides for the superintendent to be elected beginning with the election of statewide elected officials in 2011 and provides that the superintendent shall have the qualifications and salary of statewide elected officials.

House Bill No. 1014

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Barbara M. Norton

Status: Reported favorably by House Education on 4/20/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill removes funding restrictions relative to required planning time for teachers.

House Bill No. 1016

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Patrick C. Williams

Status: Withdrawn.

Summary: This bill requires students to submit annual documentation of a physical exam and a doctor's clearance in order to participate in physical activity.

House Bill No. 1025

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Nancy R. Landry

Status: Considered and deferred by House Education on 4/7/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires school boards to notify parents in writing at least one year prior to implementing new or changing existing school dress codes.

House Bill No. 1029

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Frank A. Hoffmann

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 327.

Summary: This bill deletes Free Enterprise course as prerequisite to high school graduation and instead requires that Free Enterprise instruction be included in Civics and expands the Civics requirement to one full year (excepts students who have already taken Civics or Free Enterprise or both). Makes the same change to TOPS and other provisions.

House Bill No. 1033

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Frank A. Hoffmann (Primary Author) and 23 others

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 54.

Summary: This bill provides relative to evaluation and assessment programs for teachers and administrators.

House Bill No. 1049

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Joe Harrison

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill authorizes public school boards to enter into public/private partnerships for the provision of ancillary services.

House Bill No. 1093

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative James R. "Jim" Fannin

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 735.

Summary: This bill requires the Recovery School District to receive Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget approval of capital expenses and change orders in excess of \$100,000.

House Bill No. 1128

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Walt Leger, III

Status: Reported by substitute by House Education on 5/18/10. See HB 1487.

Summary: This bill establishes certain requirements for BESE and local school boards relative to charter schools, regarding behavior and discipline, special education, and data collection, among other areas.

See also: SB 485

House Bill No. 1135

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Hunter V. Greene

Status: Deferred by House Education on 5/5/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides that the school year for all public schools and approved nonpublic schools shall not begin before Labor Day and shall not extend past May 31st. Provides that such requirement shall not apply to schools that operate on a year-round basis.

House Bill No. 1141

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Nancy R. Landry

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 737.

Summary: This bill requires certain public school governing authorities to implement certain procedures relative to denying nutrition to students and provides relative to the documenting and reporting instances of denial.

House Bill No. 1154

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Stephen F. Carter

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides for the creation and establishment of the La. Charter Schools Commission. Provides for its powers, duties, and membership. Provides for the transfer of certain present law powers, duties, and authority relative to charter schools from BESE to the commission.

House Bill No. 1180

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Patricia Haynes Smith

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 328.

Summary: This bill permits local public school boards to use state funds to purchase instructional technology and related hardware.

House Bill No. 1209

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Rosalind D. Jones

Status: Reported favorably by House Education on 4/28/10. Sent to House Appropriations. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill creates the Louisiana Educators Professional Practices Commission to investigate allegations of certain educator misconduct in schools. Grants the commission authority to suspend and revoke teaching and principal's certificates, subject to appeal to BESE.

House Bill No. 1225

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Representative Herbert B. Dixon

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 742.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to report in writing to the legislative education committees relative to standards and criteria used by the board to approve alternative schools and education programs for k-12 students suspended or expelled from school by a local school board. Provides guidelines for such report.

House Bill No. 1239

Date Filed: 3/29/2010

Who: Representative Herbert B. Dixon

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 404.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to adopt rules and regulations relative to the physical abuse of public school teachers and employees by students, including recording incidents, protecting and supporting teachers and employees, and allowing victims to transfer to other positions.

House Bill No. 1250

Date Filed: 4/5/2010

Who: Representative Stephen F. Carter

Status: Deferred by House Education on 5/12/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides relative to tenured teachers; specifies "incompetency" as used in the statute and requires certain remediation prior to removal of a tenured teacher.

House Bill No. 1313

Date Filed: 4/19/2010

Who: Representative Herbert B. Dixon

Status: Passed by House on 5/12/10. Voluntarily deferred in Senate Education on 5/27/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires superintendents of public school systems to provide certain information regarding laws, rights, and expectations to teachers employed in their respective systems who acquire permanent status as a teacher.

House Bill No. 1343

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Barbara M. Norton

Status: Failed final House passage on 5/10/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides relative to rules and regulations for administering corporal punishment in public schools and prohibits its administration to certain students with exceptionalities.

See also: HB 732 (this bill is a response to 732's deferral)

House Bill No. 1344

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Austin J. Badon, Jr.

Status: Failed final House passage on 5/13/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill authorizes public school governing authorities to provide for the placement of certain advertisements in and on school buses according to BESE rules and regulations.

House Bill No. 1348

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Rickey L. Nowlin

Status: Involuntarily deferred in House Education on 5/26/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires instruction in physical education as a prerequisite to high school graduation beginning with the 2011-12 school year.

House Bill No. 1368

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Jane H. Smith (Primary Author) and 26 others

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 749.

Summary: This bill provides a waiver program under which BESE may exempt school districts from various laws, rules, and regulations if the school district demonstrates how such a waiver will increase the quality of instruction and improve student academic achievement. Also known as the "Red Tape Reduction Waiver Program."

See also: HB 1003, SB 695

House Bill No. 1374

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Neil C. Abramson

Status: Withdrawn on 4/27/10.

Summary: This bill provides relative to the authority of the Recovery School District to receive, manage, and expend certain insurance proceeds.

House Bill No. 1376

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Walker Hines

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 750.

Summary: This bill requires a local school board to provide free transportation for a student attending a BESE-approved school within the local board's jurisdictional boundaries if the student resides more than 1,000 feet from the school. Permits certain school boards to provide transportation to a student who resides 1,000 feet or less from the school under specified conditions and with certain limitations. Also provides relative to certain reimbursements from the state Dept. of Education when the required transportation is not provided by a local school board for economically justified reasons.

See also: HB 177 (similar but not the same)

House Bill No. 1394

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Hollis Downs

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides relative to rules and regulations for administering corporal punishment in public elementary and secondary schools.

See also: HB 732, HB 1343

House Bill No. 1396

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Roy A. Burrell

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 752.

Summary: This bill requires first aid training for school employees who participate in in-service training.

House Bill No. 1399

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Hollis Downs

Status: Reported by substitute by House Education on 5/25/10. Became HB 1491.

Summary: This bill, relative to TOPS, provides (beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter) that a student who graduates from a public high school or BESE-approved nonpublic high school shall have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.75 calculated on a 4.00 scale using grades obtained in completing the core curriculum requirements.

House Bill No. 1411

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Cedric Richmond

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires the Recovery School District to receive Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget approval of capital expenses and change orders in excess of \$100,000.

House Bill No. 1437

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Barbara M. Norton

Status: Deferred by House Education on 4/29/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires school boards to provide for the early dismissal of students transported by school bus on days when the expected high temperature is 100 degrees or higher.

House Bill No. 1442

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Thomas G. Carmody, Jr.

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 534.

Summary: This bill provides for the reporting by public school employees of irregularities or improprieties in the administration of standardized tests; prohibits certain actions relative to such reporting; provides that violations shall be misdemeanor offenses and provides for penalties; and provides for remedies.

House Bill No. 1452

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative Jim Tucker

Status: Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires and provides for annual random drug testing of students in all public schools in grades 9 - 12.

House Bill No. 1458

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Representative John LaBruzzo

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 755.

Summary: This bill requires a local school board to conduct a review of its student code of conduct and amend such code as may be necessary to assure that the policy prohibiting the harassment, intimidation, and bullying of a student by another student specifically addresses the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying. Also defines "cyberbullying" for this purpose.

House Bill No. 1487

Date Filed: 5/19/2010

Who: Representative Walt Leger, III

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 756.

Summary: This bill, relative to charter schools, requires that a proposed charter be reviewed to determine whether it provides for a master plan for improving behavior and discipline and whether it provides for a plan for collecting certain data relative to school operations and performance. Provides that a charter proposal received by BESE shall be approved only after a determination that the educational program to be offered is based on generally accepted education research findings applicable to the pupils to be served, including certain school discipline practices and policies. Requires a charter proposal to contain or make provisions for school rules and regulations applicable to pupils, including certain disciplinary policies and procedures, as well as a plan for collecting certain data relative to school operations and performance. Provides that a charter school shall not be exempt from specified state laws relative to student behavior and discipline and relative to the collection of certain data on school operations and performance.

House Bill No. 1491

Date Filed: 5/26/2010

Who: Representative Hollis Downs

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 758.

Summary: This bill, relative to TOPS, provides that beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and thereafter, certain students must have successfully completed at least 19 units of a specified high school core curriculum to be eligible for an Opportunity, Performance, or Honors award.

Senate Bills

Senate Bill No. 66

Date Filed: 3/10/2010

Who: Senator Jean-Paul "JP" Morrell

Status: Passed by Senate as amended on 6/1/10. Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill creates a charter school enrollment preference for neighborhood students. Specifically, the bill requires each charter school to establish an enrollment preference for students residing in the immediate neighborhood surrounding the school, provides relative to the determination of the geographic boundaries of each such neighborhood, requires that the enrollment of each charter school be composed of a certain percentage of students residing in the immediate neighborhood of the school, provides for effectiveness, and provides for related matters.

Senate Bill No. 74

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Senator Jean-Paul "JP" Morrell

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides for the creation of community advisory boards for schools within the Recovery School District; provides relative to the membership, duties, and functions of such boards; prohibits the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education from approving a charter school within the district for which there is not more than one applicant; and provides for related matters.

See also: SB 688 (narrows scope to RSD in Orleans only; removes the "no charter when only one applicant" provision)

Senate Bill No. 83

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Senator Conrad Appel

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 116.

Summary: This bill Expands the test type options used in grades three, five, six, seven, and nine as part of LEAP.

Senate Bill No. 89

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Senator Gerald Long

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 117.

Summary: This bill removes the unnecessary statutory provision that placed the La. School of Math, Science, and the Arts within the Dept. of Education.

Senate Bill No. 111

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Senator Gerald Long

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 121.

Summary: This bill allows the La. School for Math, Science, and the Arts to admit high school sophomores on the same basis as juniors and seniors.

Senate Bill No. 112

Date Filed: 3/15/2010

Who: Senator Gerald Long

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 122.

Summary: This bill prohibits inclusion of performance data related to students educated in secure facilities under the jurisdiction of the office of juvenile justice in the school or district performance scores of the public school system in which the secure facility is located.

Senate Bill No. 157

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Senator Edwin R. Murray

Status: Voluntarily deferred on 4/29/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires binding arbitration for certain disputes between the Recovery School District and a charter school or a local school board.

Senate Bill No. 161

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Senator Edwin R. Murray

Status: Deferred by Senate Finance on 5/24/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill dedicates state funds for the purpose of providing health insurance premiums of certain plan members in hurricane-affected areas.

Senate Bill No. 240

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Senator Edwin R. Murray

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 640.

Summary: This bill allows the Orleans Parish School Board (OPSB) to exclude an amount of local revenues from the amount otherwise required to be transferred to the Recovery School District (RSD) for schools transferred from OPSB to the RSD. Allowable exclusion is equal to the amount actually expended by the board for the cost of workers' compensation premiums and the employee and employer portions of health insurance benefits for retired employees, not to exceed nine million dollars annually. Requires OPSB to annually report to DOE accounting for any monies so excluded.

Senate Bill No. 258

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Senator Edwin R. Murray

Status: Deferred by Senate Finance on 5/24/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides for eligibility of New Orleans School Board retirees to participate, as a group, in insurance sponsored by the Office of Group Benefits.

Senate Bill No. 262

Date Filed: 3/17/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 498.

Summary: This bill regulates collection of student biometric information.

Senate Bill No. 285

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Jack Donahue

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 131.

Summary: This bill includes students educated in secure facilities under the jurisdiction of the office of juvenile justice in the MFP.

Senate Bill No. 298

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Jack Donahue.

Status: Passed by Senate on 4/14/10. Reported favorably by House Education on 5/18/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to broadcast its meetings over the Internet and to archive such broadcasts.

Senate Bill No. 302

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Conrad Appel (Primary Author) and 15 others

Status: Passed by Senate on 4/28/10. Passed by House as amended on 6/8/10. Senate adopted conference committee report on 6/21/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to assign letter grades to public schools and school districts reflective of their performance.

See also: HB 925

Senate Bill No. 309

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 644

Summary: This bill provides relative to habitual absence or tardiness of students.

Senate Bill No. 340

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Robert M. Marionneaux, Jr.

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This is a constitutional amendment to grant the St. Gabriel independent school system in Iberville Parish the same authority granted parishes pursuant to Article VIII, Section 13 of the Louisiana Constitution.

Senate Bill No. 344

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Ann D. Duplessis (Primary Author) and 24 others

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 334.

Summary: This bill provide relative to submission and review of charter school proposals and charter renewals. Includes the automatic renewal provision for "high-performing" schools.

See also: HB 962

Senate Bill No. 353

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers (Primary Author) and Nick Gautreaux

Status: Deferred by Senate Education on 4/22/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires a vote of the people before any local revenues can be transferred or allocated to a Type 2 charter school.

Senate Bill No. 422

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: Regarding the superintendent's annual report to the board, governor and legislature, this bill adds the House and Senate Education Committee chairmen to the recipients, emphasizes that information on charter schools and RSD schools is to be included in the report, and adds an annual report deadline of March 15.

Senate Bill No. 444

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 500.

Summary: This bill Repeals provisions relative to schools that are outdated or have been held unconstitutional.

Senate Bill No. 445

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 501.

Summary: This bill repeals outdated provisions relative to public school teachers.

Senate Bill No. 446

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 502.

Summary: This bill repeals outdated provisions relative to assignment, placement, and continuance of public school students.

Senate Bill No. 447

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 544.

Summary: This bill repeals the requirement that the Department of Education establish and maintain a database containing information concerning high school students' plans after leaving high school.

Senate Bill No. 448

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 652.

Summary: This bill repeals requirement that BESE, regents, and postsecondary management boards develop an academic assistance program in public high schools for college bound students unprepared for college work.

Senate Bill No. 462

Date Filed: 3/18/2010

Who: Senator Michael J. "Mike" Michot

Status: Assigned to Senate Finance. No further consideration.

Summary: Present constitution provides for the allocation and disbursement of money for educational purposes by the Board of Regents and BESE out of monies appropriated by the legislature from the Louisiana Quality Education Support Fund "8(g)." Specifies that the Board of Regents shall allocate the monies for higher educational purposes and that BESE shall allocate the monies for elementary and secondary purposes. Proposed constitutional amendment retains present constitution.

Present constitution prohibits the displacement, replacement, or supplanting of such funds for elementary and secondary or higher education.

Proposed constitutional amendment authorizes an exception to the prohibition from displacing, replacing or supplanting in any fiscal year in which the total existing operating budget for either higher education or elementary and secondary education is less than the total prior fiscal year actual budget for either higher education or elementary and secondary education, or in any fiscal year in which the total recommended budget for either higher education or elementary and secondary education is less than the total existing operating budget for either higher education or elementary and secondary education, by authorizing monies appropriated from the Support Fund either to the Board of Regents or to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to be used for instructional purposes for which a general fund appropriation was made in the prior fiscal year.

There is a companion bill, SB 637, which is a statute to accompany this constitutional amendment.

Senate Bill No. 485

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Jean-Paul "JP" Morrell

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides relative to the provision of special education, behavior and discipline, and related services in charter schools.

See also: HB 1128

Senate Bill No. 487

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 444.

Summary: This bill re-creates the Department of Education.

Senate Bill No. 489

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Reported favorably by Senate Education on 4/26/10. Deferred by Senate Finance on 5/10/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires the Department of Education to reimburse local school boards for salary supplements paid to certain nationally board certified school personnel.

Senate Bill No. 490

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 445.

Summary: This bill provides that Career Diploma curriculum end-of-course exam questions reflect course content and method of instruction.

Senate Bill No. 491

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires the state superintendent of education to secure funding to provide an annual increase of at least 2.75% in the MFP.

Senate Bill No. 492

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 786.

Summary: This bill brings the governing boards of charter schools under the financial disclosure requirements of the Ethics Code.

Senate Bill No. 495

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Ben W. Nevers

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to conduct an extensive study and evaluation of the MFP formula and issue a report to the House and Senate Education Committees no later than February 15, 2011 (it was last done in 1989), and updates previous language to provide for expansion of the specified issues to be included in such study and evaluation to cover city, parish, and other local public school systems, public schools which are not under the jurisdiction of a city, parish, or other local public school board, charter schools, and the Recovery School District.

Senate Bill No. 509

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Gerald Long

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 656.

Summary: This bill includes the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts in the MFP.

Senate Bill No. 517

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Michael A. Walsworth

Status: Reported by substitute by Senate Education on 5/13/10. See SB 798.

Summary: This bill recognizes that a diploma issued to a student who has successfully completed an approved home study program carries the same privileges as one issued by a public school or a private school.

Senate Bill No. 518

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Michael A. Walsworth

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill recognizes that a diploma issued to a student who has successfully completed an approved home study program carries the same privileges as one issued by a public school or approved private school.

Senate Bill No. 522

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Michael J. "Mike" Michot

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill Requires BESE to increase the availability of electronic textbooks and instructional materials.

Senate Bill No. 527

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Sharon Weston Broome

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 136.

Summary: This bill requires local school districts to provide certain classroom management training to school personnel.

Senate Bill No. 533

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 659.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to increase the availability of electronic textbooks and instructional materials.

Senate Bill No. 553

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 660.

Summary: This bill requires BESE to develop an early high school graduation policy.

Senate Bill No. 568

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Lydia Patrice Jackson

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 552.

Summary: This bill authorizes school board members to obtain training or instruction at certain national and regional conferences in meeting the requirements for annual training of school board members upon verification of attendance.

Senate Bill No. 584

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Karen Carter Peterson

Status: Passed by House and Senate. Vetoed by the Governor on 7/2/10.

Summary: This bill creates the Louisiana Statewide Education Facilities Authority.

See also: HB 210

Senate Bill No. 628

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Ann D. Duplessis

Status: Voluntarily deferred on 4/22/10, to be turned into a study resolution. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides relative to student suspensions and expulsions.

Senate Bill No. 658

Date Filed: 3/19/2010

Who: Senator Troy Hebert

Status: Deferred by Senate Education on 5/20/10. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill requires the Dept. of Education to ensure that the amount it annually expends for certain salaries does not exceed the amount expended by the department for salaries in such category in effect on January 1, 2007.

Senate Bill No. 688

Date Filed: 4/6/2010

Who: Senator Jean-Paul "JP" Morrell

Status: Passed by Senate on 5/19/10. Assigned to House Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill provides for the creation of community advisory boards for schools within the Recovery School District in Orleans Parish; provides relative to the membership, duties, and functions of such boards; and provides for related matters.

See also: SB 74 (includes a "no charter when only one applicant" provision)

Senate Bill No. 695

Date Filed: 4/13/2010

Who: Senator Ann D. Duplessis

Status: Assigned to Senate Education. No further consideration.

Summary: This bill authorizes BESE to exempt a school board from certain laws, rules, and regulations pursuant to a request and proposal for increasing quality of instruction and academic achievement from the school board. Also known as the "Red Tape Reduction Waiver Program."

See also: HB 1003, HB 1368

Senate Bill No. 701

Date Filed: 4/14/2010

Who: Senator Robert M. Marionneaux, Jr.

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 666.

Summary: This bill requires persons who do not graduate from high school to return to school or get a GED within 120 days, or serve a minimum of two years in the armed forces and get a GED

Senate Bill No. 740

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Senator Ann D. Duplessis

Status: Withdrawn on 5/10/10.

Summary: This bill provides for teacher tenure after a five-year probationary period.

Senate Bill No. 743

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Senator Sharon Weston Broome

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 670.

Summary: This bill provides for the selection process for certain members nominated by school clubs and community organizations to the Legislative Youth Advisory Council and for submission of an annual report.

Senate Bill No. 753

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Senator Karen Carter Peterson

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 557.

Summary: This bill provides relative to the Louisiana School Dropout Prevention Act of 2008, raises the bar below which BESE must intervene, and requires publication and parental notification of information relative to school system cohort graduation and dropout rates.

Senate Bill No. 779

Date Filed: 4/20/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Reported by substitute in Senate Education on 5/13/10. See SB 800.

Summary: This bill creates the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana.

Senate Bill No. 798

Date Filed: 5/18/2010

Who: Senator Michael Walsworth

Status: Signed by the Governor; became Act 677.

Summary: This bill provides that a high school diploma awarded by an approved home study program shall receive the same recognition as one awarded by an approved nonpublic school.

Senate Bill No. 800

Date Filed: 5/18/2010

Who: Senator Eric LaFleur

Status: Substitute for SB 779. Signed by the Governor; became Act 679.

Summary: This bill creates the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana.