

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 1376

BY REPRESENTATIVE HINES

SCHOOLS/TRANSPORTATION: Requires local school boards to provide free transportation for students attending BESE-approved schools within the local board's jurisdictional boundaries if the student resides more than 1,000 feet from school

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:158(A)(1), (2), and (3) and (C); to provide relative to the
3 transportation of students by local school boards to certain elementary and secondary
4 schools; to require transportation if the student resides more than one thousand feet
5 from such school; to provide relative to transportation for a student who resides one
6 thousand feet or less from the school; to provide conditions for and limitations on
7 such transportation; to provide relative to reimbursement by the state Department of
8 Education to certain persons when transportation is not provided by a local school
9 board for economically justifiable reasons; to provide conditions for and limitations
10 on such reimbursement; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related
11 matters.

12 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

13 Section 1. R.S. 17:158(A)(1), (2), and (3) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted
14 to read as follows:

15 §158. School buses for transportation of students; employment of bus operators;
16 alternative means of transportation; improvement of school bus turnarounds
17 A.(1) Except as provided by Subsection H of this Section and in accordance
18 with the requirements of Subsection F of this Section, each city, parish, and city
19 other local public school board shall provide free transportation for any student

1 attending a school of suitable grade approved by the State Board of Elementary and
2 Secondary Education within the jurisdictional boundaries of the ~~parish or school~~
3 local board if the student resides more than one ~~mile~~ thousand feet from such school.

4 (2) The Terrebonne Parish School Board may provide transportation for any
5 student attending a school of suitable grade approved by the State Board of
6 Elementary and Secondary Education within the jurisdictional boundaries of the
7 parish or school board who resides one ~~mile~~ thousand feet or less from the school
8 when the school board determines that conditions exist to warrant such
9 transportation. Transportation of students residing one ~~mile~~ thousand feet or less
10 from their school shall be at no cost to the state.

11 (3) The Beauregard Parish School Board, the Cameron Parish School Board,
12 the East Feliciana Parish School Board, the Grant Parish School Board, the Iberville
13 Parish School Board, the Morehouse Parish School Board, the Natchitoches Parish
14 School Board, the Pointe Coupee Parish School Board, the Rapides Parish School
15 Board, the Red River Parish School Board, the Sabine Parish School Board, the
16 Vernon Parish School Board, the West Baton Rouge Parish School Board, the West
17 Carroll Parish School Board, the West Feliciana Parish School Board, and the Winn
18 Parish School Board may provide transportation for any student attending a school
19 of suitable grade approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
20 Education within the jurisdictional boundaries of the parish or school board who
21 resides one ~~mile~~ thousand feet or less from the school when the school board
22 determines that conditions exist to warrant such transportation. Transportation of
23 students residing one ~~mile~~ thousand feet or less from their school shall be at no cost
24 to the state.

25 * * *

26 C. If transportation is not provided by the city, parish, or ~~city~~ other local
27 public school board ~~by reason of~~ for economically justifiable reasons approved by
28 the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with the
29 provisions of Subsection H of this Section, the Department of Education, in

Proposed law retains present law except to refer to a student who resides 1,000 feet or less from the school rather than one mile or less from the school.

Present law (R.S. 17:158(C)) provides that if transportation is not provided by the parish or city school board for economically justifiable reasons approved by BESE, the state Dept. of Education shall reimburse the parent or tutor of any student who resides more than one mile from the student's school to the extent and in the amounts that funds are appropriated by the legislature. Specifies that in no event shall the reimbursement exceed \$125 per student or \$375 for any one family per year.

Proposed law retains present law except to provide for reimbursement to the parent or tutor of any student who resides more than 1,000 feet from the school attended rather than more than one mile from the school attended.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:158(A)(1), (2), and (3) and (C))