

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 1376

BY REPRESENTATIVES HINES, ABRAMSON, AUSTIN BADON, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, CARTER, HARDY, HAZEL, HOWARD, LABRUZZO, LANDRY, LORUSSO, PEARSON, POPE, JANE SMITH, AND TEMPLET

SCHOOLS/TRANSPORTATION: Authorizes a local school board, in accordance with specified guidelines and limitations, to transport to school any student who resides one mile or less from the school

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:158(A), relative to the transportation of students by local
3 school boards to certain elementary and secondary schools; to authorize a local
4 school board to transport to school any student who resides one mile or less from the
5 school; to provide conditions and limitations; to provide an effective date; and to
6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:158(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §158. School buses for transportation of students; employment of bus operators;
10 alternative means of transportation; improvement of school bus turnarounds

11 A.(1) Except as provided by Subsection H of this Section and in accordance
12 with the requirements of Subsection F of this Section, each city, parish, and city
13 other local public school board shall provide free transportation for any student
14 attending a school of suitable grade approved by the State Board of Elementary and
15 Secondary Education within the jurisdictional boundaries of the ~~parish or school~~
16 local board if the student resides more than one mile from such school.

17 (2) ~~The Terrebonne Parish School Board~~ A city, parish, or other local public
18 school board may provide transportation for any student attending a school of

1 suitable grade approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
2 within the jurisdictional boundaries of the ~~parish or school~~ local board who resides
3 one mile or less from the school when the school board determines that conditions
4 exist to warrant such transportation. Transportation of students residing one mile or
5 less from their school shall be at no cost to the state.

6 (3) ~~The Beauregard Parish School Board, the Cameron Parish School Board,~~
7 ~~the East Feliciana Parish School Board, the Grant Parish School Board, the Iberville~~
8 ~~Parish School Board, the Morehouse Parish School Board, the Natchitoches Parish~~
9 ~~School Board, the Pointe Coupee Parish School Board, the Rapides Parish School~~
10 ~~Board, the Red River Parish School Board, the Sabine Parish School Board, the~~
11 ~~Vernon Parish School Board, the West Baton Rouge Parish School Board, the West~~
12 ~~Carroll Parish School Board, the West Feliciana Parish School Board, and the Winn~~
13 ~~Parish School Board may provide transportation for any student attending a school~~
14 ~~of suitable grade approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary~~
15 ~~Education within the jurisdictional boundaries of the parish or school board who~~
16 ~~resides one mile or less from the school when the school board determines that~~
17 ~~conditions exist to warrant such transportation. Transportation of students residing~~
18 ~~one mile or less from their school shall be at no cost to the state. Conditions that~~
19 ~~exist and warrant transportation as authorized by Paragraph (2) of this Subsection~~
20 ~~may include but shall not be limited to the residence location of a person convicted~~
21 ~~of a sex offense as defined in R.S. 15:541 relative to registration of sex offenders,~~
22 ~~sexually violent predators, and child predators.~~

23 (4) For ~~such~~ the purposes of this Subsection, any ~~parish or city, parish, or~~
24 ~~other local public~~ school board may employ school bus operators as ~~hereinafter~~
25 defined in R.S. 17:491. However, nothing in this Section shall prohibit a ~~parish or~~
26 ~~city, parish, or other local public~~ school board from entering into contracts or mutual
27 agreements for providing school bus transportation.

28 * * *

CODING: Words in ~~struck through~~ type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.

1 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 2 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 3 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 4 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 5 effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Hines

HB No. 1376

Abstract: Authorizes a local school board, in accordance with specified guidelines and limitations, to transport to school any student who resides one mile or less from the school.

Present law (R.S. 17:158(A)(2) and (3)) authorizes 17 specified local school boards to provide transportation for any student attending a school of suitable grade (approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE)) within the jurisdictional boundaries of the local board who resides one mile or less from the school when the school board determines that conditions warrant the transportation. Specifies that such transportation shall be at no cost to the state.

Proposed law deletes present law provisions relative to the 17 specified school boards and provides instead that any local school board may provide transportation for any student attending a school of suitable grade (approved by BESE) within the jurisdictional boundaries of the local board who resides one mile or less from the school when the school board determines that conditions warrant the transportation. Specifies that such transportation shall be at no cost to the state.

Provides that conditions that exist and warrant such transportation may include (but shall not be limited to) the residence location of a person convicted of a sex offense as defined in present law relative to registration of sex offenders, sexually violent predators, and child predators.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:158(A))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Changed proposed law to permit any local school board, in accordance with specified guidelines and limitations, to transport to certain schools any student who resides one mile or less from the school rather than to require local school boards to transport to certain schools students who reside more than 1,000 feet from such school.
2. Made technical changes to present law.