

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE BILL NO. 568

BY SENATOR JACKSON

SCHOOLS. Authorizes school board members to obtain training or instruction at certain national conferences in meeting their annual training requirement. (8/15/10)

1 AN ACT
2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:53(A) and (B), relative to required training and instruction
3 of school board members; to authorize school board members to obtain training and
4 instruction at certain conferences; to require verification of attendance; and to
5 provide for related matters.
6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7 Section 1. R.S. 17:53(A) and (B) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as
8 follows:
9 §53. School board members; training required
10 A. (1) Each member of a city, parish, and other local public school board shall
11 receive a minimum of four hours of training and instruction annually in the school
12 laws of this state, in the laws governing the powers, duties, and responsibilities of
13 city, parish, and other local public school boards, and in educational trends, research,
14 and policy. In a city, parish, or other local public school district that has one or more
15 schools identified as an academically unacceptable school or a school in need of
16 academic assistance as defined by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
17 Education pursuant to policies developed and adopted by the board for

1 implementation of the school and district accountability system, at least two of such
 2 hours shall focus on the improvement of schools identified as failing schools as
 3 defined by the state board pursuant to such policies. The remaining hours shall focus
 4 on education policy issues, including but not limited to literacy and numeracy,
 5 leadership development, dropout prevention, career and technical education,
 6 redesigning high schools, early childhood education, school discipline, and
 7 harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Training shall also include instruction
 8 relative to the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, R.S. 42:4.1 et seq., and the
 9 Public Bid Law, Chapter 10 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950.

10 ~~(2) Such~~ **Any such** instruction **required by Paragraph (1) of this**
 11 **Subsection** may be received from ~~a~~ **any of the following sources:**

12 **(a) A** postsecondary education institution in this state, ~~from instruction,~~

13 **(b) Instruction** sponsored by the state Department of Education, ~~or from an,~~

14 **(c) An** in-service training program conducted by a city, parish, or other local
 15 public school board central office or the Louisiana School Boards Association
 16 provided that the instruction and the method for demonstrating attendance are pre-
 17 approved by the Louisiana School Boards Association.

18 **(d) Training and instruction received at any conference presented by the**
 19 **National School Boards Association or by the Council of the Great City Schools,**
 20 **provided that verification of attendance by the school board member at any**
 21 **such training is obtained.**

22 **(3)** Each school board member's attendance ~~must~~ **shall** be reported by the
 23 instructor to the Louisiana School Boards Association.

24 B.**(1)** The postsecondary education institution, the state Department of
 25 Education, the school board central office, or the Louisiana School Boards
 26 Association that provides such instruction shall issue a certificate of completion to
 27 each school board member who completes the instruction required by this Section,
 28 and a copy of such certificate shall be entered into the minutes of the school board
 29 on which such member serves.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Removes reference to regional school board associations.
2. Provides for training credit for attending conferences offered by the Council of the Great City Schools.