

SENATE BILL NO. 568

BY SENATOR JACKSON

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

27 (2) Such ~~Any such~~ instruction **required by Paragraph (1) of this**

1 **Subsection** may be received from a **any of the following sources:**

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

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

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

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

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

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

20 **(2)** The superintendent of the school system on which school board the
21 member serves shall be responsible for verifying that ~~the~~ **any of the training or**
22 **instruction received by the school board member pursuant to Subsection A of**
23 **this Section** meets the requirements of this Section.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____