

Present constitution provides for the creation and functions of BESE. Provides that the board shall supervise and control the public elementary and secondary school and special schools under its jurisdiction and have budgetary responsibility for all funds appropriated or allocated by the state for those schools. Specifies that the board shall have other powers, duties, and responsibilities as provided by the law, but shall have no control over the business affairs of a parish or city school board or the selection or removal of its officer and employees.

Proposed constitutional amendment authorizes BESE to supervise, manage, and operate any public elementary or secondary school determined to be failing or to provide for others to do so. Authorizes BESE to receive, control, and expend state minimum foundation program money and local money contributed pursuant to the minimum foundation program or otherwise in amounts calculated based on the number of students in attendance in such a school, all in the manner and in accordance with law.

Proposed constitutional amendment also revises the reference to "parish or city school board" to "parish, city, or other local school board" to account for the legal existence of a school board the jurisdiction of which is defined by neither parish or city boundaries.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the gubernatorial primary election in 2003.

(Amends Const. Art. VIII, Sec. 3(A))