

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE BILL NO. 149

BY REPRESENTATIVE HENRY BURNS

SCHOOLS: Defines the terms "elementary school", "middle school", "junior high school", and "high school" for purposes of general school law

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:236(C), (D), and (E); to define for purposes of general school law the terms
3 "elementary school", "middle school", "junior high school", and "high school"; to
4 specify that middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools shall be considered
5 secondary schools; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:236(C), (D), and (E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §236. Definition of a school

9 * * *

10 C. For the purpose of reporting data:

11 (1) The term "elementary school" means a school composed of any span of
12 grades pre-kindergarten through grade eight that excludes grades nine through
13 twelve.

14 (2) The term "middle school" or "junior high school" means a school
15 composed of any span of grades five through nine that includes grades seven and
16 eight and that excludes grades pre-kindergarten through three and ten through
17 twelve.

18 (3) The term "high school" means a school composed of any span of grades
19 nine through twelve.

20 (4) Middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools shall be considered
21 secondary schools.

1 D. Nothing in Subsection C of this Section shall be construed to prohibit a
 2 city, parish, or other local public school board from configuring, classifying, or
 3 defining schools under its jurisdiction in a manner other than that provided in
 4 Subsection C of this Section.

5 E. Nothing in Subsection C of this Section shall effect the certification of
 6 education personnel or the grade levels for which they are eligible to teach.

7 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
 8 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
 9 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
 10 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
 11 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)]

Henry Burns

HB No. 149

Abstract: For purposes of general school law, defines the terms "elementary school", "middle school", "junior high school", and "high school". Specifies that middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools shall be considered secondary schools.

Present law (R.S. 17:236(A)) defines the term "school" for purposes of general school law, R.S. 17:1-408.2.

Proposed law (R.S. 17:236(C)) adds definitions for purposes of reporting data as follows:

- (1) Defines "elementary school" to mean a school composed of any span of grades pre-kindergarten through eight that excludes grades nine through 12.
- (2) Defines "middle school" or "junior high school" to mean a school composed of any span of grades five through nine that includes grades seven and eight and that excludes grades pre-kindergarten through three and 10 through 12.
- (3) Defines "high school" to mean a school composed of any span of grades nine through 12.

Proposed law also specifies that middle schools, junior high schools, and high schools shall be considered secondary schools.

Proposed law provides that it does not preclude local school boards from configuring, classifying, or defining schools in other ways and does not effect certification of personnel or the grade levels they may teach.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:236(C), (D), and (E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Adds provision specifying that proposed law is not applicable to nonpublic schools approved by BESE.

. House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Removes provision specifying that proposed law is not applicable to nonpublic schools approved by BESE.
2. Adds specification that the purpose of proposed law is reporting data.
3. Adds provisions indicating that proposed law does not preclude local school boards from configuring, classifying, or defining schools in other ways and does not effect certification of personnel or the grade levels they may teach