

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 562

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Permits local public school boards to assign students to charter schools under certain circumstances

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3991(B)(3), relative to charter schools; to permit city, parish,  
3 and other local public school boards to assign students to charter schools under  
4 certain circumstances; to provide for such assignment to be based on parental  
5 preferences; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3991(B)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §3991. Charter schools; requirements; limitations; renewal; amendment; revocation

9 \* \* \*

10 B. Each proposed charter shall contain or make provision for the following:

11 \* \* \*

12 (3) Admission requirements, if any, that are consistent with the school's role,  
13 scope, and mission may be established pursuant to rules promulgated by the state  
14 board. Such admission requirements shall be specific and shall include a system for  
15 admission decisions which precludes exclusion of pupils based on race, religion,  
16 gender, ethnicity, national origin, intelligence level as ascertained by an intelligence  
17 quotient examination, or identification as a student with an exceptionality as defined  
18 in R.S. 17:1942(B). Such admission requirements may include, however, specific  
19 requirements related to a school's mission such as auditions for schools with a  
20 performing arts mission or proficiency in a foreign language for schools with a

1 language immersion mission. Any school which was chartered prior to July 1, 2012,  
 2 and which incorporated achievement of a certain academic record as part of its  
 3 admission requirements may continue to ~~utilize~~ use such admission requirements.  
 4 No local board shall assign any pupil to attend a charter school, except that a local  
 5 board in a district that has one or more charter schools and that uses a single  
 6 application for public school enrollment may assign a pupil to a charter school based  
 7 on the preferences of the pupil's parent or legal guardian.

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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)]

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**Abstract:** Permits a local public school board in a district that has one or more charter schools and uses a single application for public school enrollment to assign students to charter schools based on the preferences of a student's parent or legal guardian.

Present law provides relative to charter school requirements, limitations, and prohibitions. Requires that charter school admission requirements be consistent with the school's role, scope, and mission. Requires that the admission requirements include a system for admission decisions which precludes exclusion of students based on race, religion, gender, ethnicity, national origin, intelligence level, or identification as a student with an exceptionality as defined in present law. Provides that such requirements may include specific requirements related to a school's mission such as auditions or proficiency in a foreign language. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law prohibits local school boards from assigning students to attend a charter school. Proposed law exempts from this prohibition a local public school board in a district that has one or more charter schools and uses a single application for public school enrollment. Allows such a board to assign students to charter schools based on the preferences of the parents.

(Amends R.S. 17:3991(B)(3))