
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)]

HB 1003 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Freeman

Abstract: Requires a local school board to establish a policy relative to systemwide overcapacity.

Present law provides for the return of certain charter schools from the Recovery School District to the transferring local school system.

Proposed law retains present law and requires the local school board to adopt a policy relative to systemwide overcapacity of operating schools.

Requires the establishment of the following:

- (1) Standards for overcapacity of schools with jurisdiction over grades kindergarten through eight.
- (2) Standards for overcapacity of schools with jurisdiction over grades nine through 12.
- (3) Metrics for such standards that include student enrollment projections, student demographic projections, programmatic seat capacity, and facility utilization targets.

Proposed law requires the superintendent to submit a written report utilizing the most recent enrollment data available to the school board by Nov. 15th annually. Requires the superintendent to include in the report the status of overcapacity of schools with jurisdiction over grades kindergarten through eight, schools with jurisdiction over grades nine through twelve, or both categories of schools.

Proposed law provides that if the superintendent makes a determination of overcapacity, the superintendent shall make recommendations to the board for specific actions to be implemented to mitigate such status by Dec. 15th. Provides that unless the board rejects the recommendations by a 2/3 vote within 30 days after submission or Dec. 31st, whichever occurs first, the superintendent may implement the recommendations.

Proposed law authorizes the local school board to terminate a charter contract prior to its expiration for the purpose of addressing overcapacity. Provides that no school shall open that has jurisdiction over the grade levels in which overcapacity exists.

Present law (R.S. 17:3982(B)(2)(a)) requires the Orleans Parish School board to make available to chartering groups certain vacant property owned by the board for lease or purchase.

Proposed law exempts the board from such lease or sale if the vacancy is due to reducing systemwide overcapacity pursuant to proposed law if a recommendation of the superintendent to otherwise utilize the property is approved by a majority vote of the board.

(Amends R.S. 17:3982(B)(2)(a); Adds R.S. 17:10.7.1(J))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.