2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 363

BY REPRESENTATIVE PHELPS

SCHOOLS/EMPLOYEES: Requires in-service training for school nurses on caring for students with sickle cell disease

1	AN ACT
2	To enact R.S. 17:436.5 and 3996(B)(82), relative to school nurses; to require local public
3	school boards to adopt policies requiring school nurses to participate in a training
4	program relative to sickle cell disease; to specify that the training include
5	information on caring for students with sickle cell disease at school; to require the
6	Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission to provide training materials to the state
7	Department of Education and to require the department to make it available to school
8	boards; and to provide for related matters.
9	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
10	Section 1. R.S. 17:436.5 and 3996(B)(82) are hereby enacted to read as follows:
11	§436.5. Sickle cell disease; training for school nurses
12	A. Each local public school board shall adopt a policy to require that each
13	school nurse participates in an in-service training program of at least one hour
14	relative to sickle cell disease. The school boards shall use the instructional materials
15	provided in accordance with Subsection C of this Section. The training may be
16	incorporated into an existing in-service training program.
17	B. The program shall include information on symptoms of and treatments
18	for sickle cell disease in children and shall include, at minimum, the following:
19	(1) The medical needs students may have in a school setting related to the
20	physiological complications of the disease, including but not limited to anemia,

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1	sensitivity to heat and cold, increased urinary frequency, pain episodes, fevers, and
2	stroke.
3	(2) Possible accommodations in the classroom, at recess, and during school
4	meal times for students who experience health problems associated with sickle cell
5	disease during the school day.
6	(3) Methods for communicating with parents and other school personnel in
7	order to support positive academic outcomes for students with sickle cell disease.
8	C. The Louisiana Sickle Cell Commission shall provide the instructional
9	materials to the state Department of Education, and the department shall provide the
10	materials and information to school boards for the purposes of this Section.
11	* * *
12	§3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements
13	* * *
14	B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
15	except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
16	charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
17	Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
18	exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
19	applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
20	the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:
21	* * *
22	(82) Sickle cell disease training for school nurses, R.S. 17:236.5.
23	* * *

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 363 Original

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Phelps

Abstract: Requires in-service training for school nurses on sickle cell disease.

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<u>Proposed law</u> requires that school nurses in public schools, including charter schools, participate in an in-service training program using instructional materials provided in accordance with <u>proposed law</u> on caring for students with sickle cell disease, including disease symptoms and treatment; medical needs of, and possible accommodations for, such students; and communication with parents and other school personnel in support of positive academic outcomes for these students. Requires the La. Sickle Cell Commission to provide the instructional materials to the state Dept. of Education and requires the dept. to provide the materials and information to school boards for proposed law purposes.

(Adds R.S. 17:436.5 and 3996(B)(82))