

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 26

BY SENATORS FIELDS AND BOUIE

SCHOOLS. Requires heating and air conditioning on school buses. (gov sig)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:164.3, relative to school buses; to require all school buses used in transportation of students to and from school to be equipped with heating and air conditioning; to provide relative to rules and regulations of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to provide relative to compliance; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:164.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§164.3. Additional regulations; heating and air conditioning systems required; compliance**

**A. In addition to any regulations adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 17:164 relative to the construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses used in the transportation of students, the board also shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and any applicable federal standards to require the following:**

**(1) On and after August 1, 2024, every new or used school bus purchased**

1 by the governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and  
 2 each nonpublic elementary and secondary school used primarily for the  
 3 transportation of students shall be equipped with passenger compartment  
 4 heating and air conditioning systems.

5 (2) On and after August 1, 2027, every school bus used primarily for the  
 6 transportation of students shall be equipped with passenger compartment  
 7 heating and air conditioning systems.

8 B. Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 17:164 to the contrary, the  
 9 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall require each  
 10 governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and each  
 11 nonpublic elementary and secondary school approved by the board to comply  
 12 with the rules and regulations adopted by the board pursuant to the provisions  
 13 of Subsection A of this Section.

14 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
 15 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
 16 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
 17 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
 18 effective on the day following such approval.

---

The original instrument was prepared by Mary Francis Aucoin. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Curry J. Lann.

---

## DIGEST

SB 26 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Fields

Proposed law requires BESE to adopt rules and regulations (in accordance with the APA and any applicable federal standards) to require the following:

- (1) On and after August 1, 2024, every new or used school bus purchased by the governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and each nonpublic elementary and secondary school used primarily for the transportation of students be equipped with passenger compartment heating and air conditioning systems.
- (2) On and after August 1, 2027, every school bus used primarily for the transportation of students shall be equipped with passenger compartment heating and air conditioning systems.

Proposed law provides that notwithstanding certain provisions of present law relative to the

construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses, BESE must require each governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and each nonpublic elementary and secondary school approved by the board to comply with such rules and regulations.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:164.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

1. Requires BESE to adopt rules to require that on and after August 1, 2024, every new or used school bus purchased by the governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and each nonpublic elementary and secondary school be equipped with heating and air conditioning systems.
2. Requires BESE to adopt rules to require that on and after August 1, 2027, every school bus used primarily for the transportation of students shall be equipped with heating and air conditioning systems.