

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2025 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by House Committee on Education to Reengrossed Senate Bill No. 234 by Senator Edmonds

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, line 2, change "68.6," to "68.7,"

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 1, line 13, after "employees;" and before "to" insert "to provide for agreements between school boards with respect to an allocation of assets and liabilities;"

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, line 3, change "68.6" to "68.7"

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 7, line 1, after "of the" and before "charter," change "exiting" to "existing"

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 7, deletes lines 18 through 22, and insert the following:

"(2) Provides that any student who resides within the boundaries of the St. George Community School System or the East Baton Rouge Parish School System may enroll in any charter school located within the geographical boundaries of East Baton Rouge Parish."

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 8, line 16, change "N." to "N.(1)"

AMENDMENT NO. 7

On page 8, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

"(2) Nothing in Subsection M of this Section shall prohibit the East Baton Rouge Parish School System or the St. George Community School System from creating enrollment preferences that may prioritize qualified students who reside within the district boundaries of its school system."

AMENDMENT NO. 8

On page 9, line 18, after "sixty-eight," and before "shall" delete "and sixty-nine" and insert "sixty-nine, and seventy"

AMENDMENT NO. 9

On page 14, between lines 21 and 22, insert the following:

**"§68.7. Mutual agreements regarding distribution of assets and liabilities between school boards
A. No later than sixty days after the effective date of this Act, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and the St. George Community School Board**

1 shall meet jointly to begin the process to determine the fair and equitable
 2 division of all assets and liabilities between the two school boards related to the
 3 formation of the St. George Community School System. The two school boards
 4 shall mutually agree upon an actuary, an appraiser, and an auditor to
 5 determine the valuation of the assets and liabilities. The date of the valuations
 6 shall be the effective date of this Act.

7 B. The assets that are required to be valued, pursuant to Subsection
 8 A of this Section, shall include all of the following:

9 (1) All lands, buildings, improvements, facilities, school buses, vehicles,
 10 and any other movable or immovable property, whether corporeal or
 11 incorporeal, having title or ownership vested in the public and subject to
 12 management, administration, and control by the East Baton Rouge Parish
 13 School Board for public education purposes that are located within the
 14 geographic boundaries of the St. George Community School System.

15 (2) Any reserves, trust funds, or other accounts containing funds set
 16 aside to pay post employment retirement benefits for employees who retired
 17 from schools located within the geographic boundaries of the St. George
 18 Community School System prior to the effective date of this Act.

19 (3) Any reserves, trust funds, or other accounts set aside to pay for
 20 maintenance or deferred maintenance on movable or immovable properties
 21 located within the geographic boundaries of the St. George Community School
 22 System that are described in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection.

23 (4) Any insurance policies or reinsurance policies associated with the
 24 liabilities listed in Subsection C of this Section.

25 C. The liabilities that are required to be valued, pursuant to
 26 Subsection A of Section, shall include all of the following:

27 (1) Necessary maintenance or depreciation that is associated with those
 28 movable or immovable assets listed in Subsection B of this Section.

29 (2) Unfunded accrued liability payments, as provided in R.S. 17:68.4.

30 (3) Benefits related to costs associated with the reemployment of retirees
 31 with respect to post employment benefits, as provided in R.S. 17:68.5.

32 (4) Post employment benefits that are due to employees who retired
 33 from schools located within the geographic boundaries of the St. George
 34 Community School System prior to the effective date of this Act. In order to
 35 equitably manage the risks associated with and the costs of providing the post
 36 employment benefits, the benefit costs shall be calculated on the basis of the
 37 benefit plan adopted by the St. George Community School Board for those
 38 employees who are employed by the St. George Community School System after
 39 the effective date of this Act.

40 D. If, in order to reach a fair and equitable agreement with respect to
 41 the division of assets and apportionment of liabilities as provided in this Section
 42 results in the requirement that an equalizing payment be made, that payment
 43 may be made as a one-time payment or may be structured over a number of
 44 years, as agreed by the parties.

45 E. Nothing in this Section shall operate to delay the transfer of property
 46 as required in R.S. 17:68.1 or in any way delay the St. George Community
 47 School System from beginning its actual operation of providing for the
 48 education of students within its jurisdiction on July 1, 2027.

49 F. For purposes of this Section, the following terms whether used in the
 50 singular or plural, shall have the following meanings:

51 (1) "Employees who are retired" means every person who was employed
 52 by the school board including administrators, classroom teachers, coaches,
 53 librarians, counselors, teachers' aides, clerical employees, lunchroom workers,
 54 custodial workers, school bus operators, school bus operators' aides,
 55 noninstructional employees, janitors, custodial workers, maintenance workers,
 56 bus aides, attendants, or monitors.

57 (2) "Post employment benefits" means health insurance and life
 58 insurance attributable to a retiree who was previously employed on the date of

1 **his retirement at a school located within the geographic boundaries of the**
 2 **St. George Community School System prior to the effective date of this Act."**

3 AMENDMENT NO. 10

4 On page 14, at the beginning of line 29, change "Section 4." to "Section 4.(A)"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 11

6 On page 15, line 3, after "Act" delete the remainder of the line and at the beginning of line
 7 4, delete "after the effective date of this Act." and insert "as provided in this Section."

8 AMENDMENT NO. 12

9 On page 15, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

10 "(B) A student in kindergarten through fifth grade may remain enrolled in the school
 11 attended on the effective date of this Act until the completion of fifth grade, and a student
 12 in sixth through eighth grade may remain enrolled in the school attended on the effective
 13 date of this Act until the completion of eighth grade.

14 (C) Thereafter, no such student shall enroll in a school located outside the
 15 geographic boundaries of the school system in which he lives except as otherwise authorized
 16 pursuant to the provisions of this Act or any other provision of law."