

SENATE BILL NO. 234

BY SENATOR EDMONDS AND REPRESENTATIVES CARLSON, CHENEVERT,
EDMONSTON AND OWEN

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:58.2(J) and 68.1 through 68.7, and to repeal R.S. 17:58.2(I) and 67 through
3 67.4, relative to school systems in East Baton Rouge Parish; to provide for the St.
4 George Community School System; to provide for the establishment and geographic
5 boundaries of the school system; to provide for the school board, an interim school
6 board, and an interim school superintendent; to provide for board membership,
7 apportionment, qualifications, method of selection, terms of office, filling of
8 vacancies, compensation, expenses, powers, duties, and responsibilities; to provide
9 relative to facilities and property; to provide relative to the collection and remittance
10 of certain taxes; to provide relative to the provision of certain student services; to
11 provide relative to certain applications for funding; to provide for the
12 reapportionment of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board; to provide with
13 respect to certain costs related to retired employees; to provide for agreements
14 between school boards with respect to an allocation of assets and liabilities; to
15 provide for effectiveness and for implementation; to repeal provisions of law with
16 respect to the Southeast Baton Rouge Community School District which did not take
17 effect due to the failure to enact an authorizing constitutional amendment; to provide
18 for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

19 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published.

20 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

21 Section 1. R.S. 17:58.2(J) and 68.1 through 68.7 are hereby enacted to read as
22 follows:

23 §58.2. East Baton Rouge Parish School Board; reapportionment; election districts;

1 terms

2 * * *

3 J.(1) In addition to any other requirements in this Section, in the event
 4 the St. George Community School Board begins the actual operation of
 5 educating students within its jurisdiction as a separate school system in
 6 accordance with R.S. 17:68.1, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall
 7 develop a plan to divide the parish, excluding the geographic area within the
 8 boundaries of the St. George Community School System, into single-member
 9 districts from each of which one member of the board shall be elected. The
 10 districts shall be drawn with as equal population as possible, using population
 11 figures from the most recent federal decennial census.

12 (2) Prior to the final adoption of the reapportionment plan, the East
 13 Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall order a public hearing on the proposed
 14 plan and shall cause the notice of the public hearing to be published in its
 15 official journal, at least twenty days prior to the date of the hearing, and the
 16 notice shall include all of the following:

17 (a) The time and place of the hearing.

18 (b) A general summary and map of the proposed reapportionment plan.

19 (c) The times and places where copies of the proposed map and
 20 reapportionment plan are available for public inspection.

21 (3) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, each elected member
 22 of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board who is holding office on the date
 23 that the St. George Community School Board begins the actual operation of
 24 educating students within its jurisdiction as a separate school system shall serve
 25 the remainder of the term of office for which the member was elected. If a
 26 vacancy occurs during the member's term of office, it shall be filled in
 27 accordance with law from districts in effect at the time the office is filled.

28 (4) At the next date on which a regular election for members of the East
 29 Baton Rouge Parish School Board would be held following the date that the St.
 30 George Community School Board begins the actual operation of educating

1 students within its jurisdiction as a separate school system, the members of the
 2 East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall be elected from single-member
 3 districts adopted in accordance with this Subsection. The members so elected
 4 and their successors in office shall serve four-year concurrent terms.
 5 Thereafter, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall be reapportioned
 6 as otherwise provided by law.

7 * * *

8 §68.1. St. George Community School Board and school system; creation;
 9 membership; qualifications; apportionment; election; powers,
 10 duties, functions; and system operation

11 A.(1) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, upon the
 12 appointment of members of the interim school board as provided in R.S.
 13 17:68.2, there shall be established a separate school system and school board for
 14 the city of St. George within the boundaries of East Baton Rouge Parish. The
 15 school board shall be designated as the St. George Community School Board.
 16 The board shall be composed of seven members, one from each of the single-
 17 member districts as provided for in Subsection B of this Section, who shall be
 18 electors and shall meet the qualifications for office provided in R.S. 17:52.

19 (2) The geographic boundaries of the school system shall, at all times
 20 relevant, be coterminous with the city of St. George.

21 B.(1) The interim school board shall, within one hundred eighty days of
 22 appointment of the interim members, develop and adopt a plan of governance
 23 and shall divide the geographic area encompassed by the St. George
 24 Community School System into seven single-member districts and each district
 25 shall elect one member to serve on the St. George Community School Board.
 26 The districts shall be drawn in such a manner so that each member of the St.
 27 George Community School Board represents the same number of persons as
 28 nearly as possible, using population figures from the latest federal decennial
 29 census.

30 (2) Prior to the final adoption of the apportionment plan required by

1 Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the interim school board shall order a public
2 hearing on the proposed plan and shall cause the notice of the public hearing to
3 be published in its official journal, at least twenty days prior to the date of such
4 hearing, and the notice shall include all of the following:

5 (a) The time and place of the hearing.

6 (b) A general summary and map of the proposed apportionment plan.

7 (c) The times and places where copies of the proposed map and
8 apportionment plan are available for public inspection.

9 C.(1) The initial members of the St. George Community School Board
10 shall be elected at the time and place as provided by law and the election shall
11 occur prior to the date that the St. George Community School Board begins the
12 actual operation of educating students within its jurisdiction as a separate
13 school system.

14 (2) The initial elected members shall take office and their duties shall be
15 generally provided by law for elected parish school board members.

16 D. Vacancies on the board shall be filled as generally provided by law for
17 parish school boards.

18 E.(1) The organization of the St. George Community School Board as
19 well as the board's powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities shall be as
20 provided by law for local public school boards. Compensation for board
21 members and reimbursement for expenses shall be as provided by law for city,
22 parish, and other local public school board members.

23 (2) The St. George Community School Board shall adopt rules,
24 regulations, and procedures consistent with law to effectuate this Section and
25 to administer the duties, functions, and responsibilities of the board.

26 F.(1) The St. George Community School Board shall begin actual
27 operation of providing for the education of students within its jurisdiction on
28 July 1, 2027.

29 (2) Pursuant to the duty and responsibility placed with the legislature by
30 Article VIII, Section 1 of the Constitution of Louisiana to establish and

1 maintain a public educational system and pursuant to the authority granted to
2 the legislature by Article VIII, Section 10(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana
3 to enact laws affecting parish school board systems in existence on the effective
4 date of the constitution, all lands, buildings, improvements, facilities, and other
5 property having title vested in the public and subject to management,
6 administration, and control by the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board for
7 public education purposes that is located within the geographic boundaries of
8 the St. George Community School System or used to provide student
9 transportation services to such facilities, or both, shall be transferred to the St.
10 George Community School Board not later than June 30, 2027. Once
11 transferred, all property shall thereafter be managed, administered, and
12 controlled by the St. George Community School Board. The provisions of this
13 Subsection shall supercede any other provision of law to the contrary.

14 G. The St. George Community School System and the East Baton Rouge
15 Parish School System shall develop a transportation plan or develop a plan for
16 transferring school buses from the fleet owned and operated by the East Baton
17 Rouge Parish School System to the St. George Community School System.

18 H. The East Baton Rouge Parish School System shall provide extended
19 school year services through August 31, 2027, to public and nonpublic school
20 students residing within the geographic boundaries of the St. George
21 Community School System who qualified to receive such services prior to June
22 30, 2027.

23 I. The East Baton Rouge Parish School System and any taxing district
24 created by the East Baton Rouge Parish School System shall be the recipient of
25 all sales and use taxes levied for school purposes collected within the geographic
26 boundaries of the St. George Community School System and remitted by the tax
27 collector through June 30, 2027. Beginning on July 1, 2027, the sales and use tax
28 collector shall remit all sales and use taxes levied for school purposes collected
29 within the geographic boundaries of the St. George Community School System,
30 including delinquent payments, to the St. George Community School System.

1 J. The East Baton Rouge Parish School System shall receive all ad
2 valorem and property taxes levied for school purposes that are collected within
3 the geographic boundaries of the St. George Community School System and
4 that are remitted by the tax collector through June 30, 2027. Beginning on July
5 1, 2027, the tax collector shall remit all ad valorem and property taxes levied for
6 school purposes collected within the geographic boundaries of the St. George
7 Community School System, including delinquent payments, to the St. George
8 Community School System.

9 K. With respect to students attending charter schools that are located
10 within the boundaries of the St. George Community School System and the East
11 Baton Rouge Parish School System, all of the following shall apply:

12 (1)(a) On July 1, 2027, the St. George Community School Board shall
13 assume the jurisdiction over the existing charter schools located within the
14 boundaries of the St. George Community School System that were authorized
15 by the East Baton Rouge Parish School System prior to the effective date of the
16 Act.

17 (b) An existing charter operator, at their option, may renegotiate the
18 terms of the contract with St. George Community School System or petition to
19 the Louisiana Board of Secondary and Elementary Education to become a Type
20 II charter after the effective date of the Act. If the existing charter chooses not
21 to renegotiate the terms of the existing charter, then the terms of the charter
22 which were authorized by the East Baton Rouge School System prior to the
23 effective date of the Act shall remain in effect until the expiration of the charter.

24 (2) After the effective date of the Act, all applications for a new charter
25 school to be located within the boundaries of the St. George Community School
26 System shall be made to the St. George Community School Board or as
27 otherwise provided by law.

28 L. As required of all municipal and other school systems pursuant to
29 Article VIII, Section 13(D)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana, no state funds
30 shall be used to discriminate or to have the effect of discriminating in providing

1 equal educational opportunity for all students.

2 M. The East Baton Rouge Parish School System and the St. George
3 Community School System shall enter into an agreement with respect to the
4 transfer of students between the school system that does all of the following:

5 (1) Allows any student who is domiciled in the city of St. George to enroll
6 and attend a school in the adjoining school system of East Baton Rouge Parish,
7 pursuant to R.S. 17:105.1.

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

12 (3) Provides that any student who is living within the geographic
13 boundaries of the St. George Community School System shall be allowed to
14 attend any magnet program at a school with selective enrollment that is located
15 within the boundaries of the East Baton Rouge Parish School System, without
16 regard to attendance zones, so long as the student meets the selective
17 admission's requirements and maintains the academic standards of the magnet
18 program.

19 (4) Provides that any student who is living within the geographic
20 boundaries of the East Baton Rouge Parish School System shall be allowed to
21 attend any magnet program at a school with selective enrollment that is located
22 within the boundaries of the St. George Community School System, without
23 regard to attendance zones, so long as the student meets the selective
24 admission's requirements and maintains the academic standards of the magnet
25 program.

26 (5) Provides that any new applicant to a magnet program or a charter
27 school shall not displace any student who is already on the waiting list to attend
28 that magnet program or charter school, regardless of where the student resides
29 in East Baton Rouge Parish.

30 (6) Provides that the school which accepts a student that is transferred

1 in compliance with the agreement shall receive the local per pupil and state
2 Minimum Foundation Program funds, pursuant to R.S. 17:105, so that the
3 money follows that student to the chosen school.

4 N.(1) Except as provided in Subsection M of this Section, nothing in this
5 Section shall be construed to interfere or circumvent the rights of either school
6 system that are established by law as it relates to attendance zones.

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

11 §68.2. St. George Community School System; interim school board; interim
12 school superintendent

13 A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, upon the
14 appointment of the members thereof as provided in Subsection C of this Section,
15 an interim school board shall be created for the St. George Community School
16 System and the board shall continue its service until the taking of office of the
17 initial elected members of the St. George Community School Board as provided
18 in R.S. 17:68.1.

19 B.(1) The interim school board shall be composed of seven members
20 appointed at large as provided in Subsection C of this Section. An interim
21 school board member shall have attained the age of eighteen, have resided in the
22 state for the two years preceding appointment, have been domiciled within the
23 geographic boundaries of the school system for at least one year preceding
24 appointment, meet the qualifications provided in R.S. 17:52, be an elector and
25 reside within the geographic boundaries of the school system.

26 (2) Membership on the interim school board shall not disqualify an
27 otherwise eligible person from qualifying as a candidate for election as a
28 member of the St. George Community School Board.

29 C.(1) All seven members of the interim school board shall be appointed
30 by the governor within thirty days after the effective date of this Act and shall

1 serve until the initial members of the St. George Community School Board are
2 elected, as provided in R.S. 17:68.1, and take office.

3 (2) Members appointed by the governor shall be from a list of nominees
4 provided as follows:

5 (a) The members of the Louisiana Senate elected from district numbers
6 six, fourteen, and sixteen shall each nominate three persons meeting the
7 qualifications for office for each position to be appointed by the governor.

8 (b) The members of the Louisiana House of Representatives elected from
9 district numbers sixty-five, sixty-six, sixty-eight, sixty-nine, and seventy shall
10 each nominate two persons meeting the qualifications for office for each
11 position to be appointed by the governor.

12 (3) A vacancy on the interim school board shall be filled in the same
13 manner as the original appointment.

14 D.(1) The interim school board shall constitute a body corporate in law.

15 (2) The organization of the interim school board as well as the board's
16 powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities shall be as provided by law
17 generally for city, parish, and other local public school boards.

18 (3) Members of the interim school board shall serve without
19 compensation.

20 E. The interim school board shall adopt rules, regulations, and
21 procedures consistent with law to effectuate this Section and to administer the
22 duties, functions, and responsibilities of the interim board.

23 F. The provisions of R.S. 42:11 through 28, relative to open meetings,
24 and the provisions of Chapter 1 of Title 44 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of
25 1950, relative to public records, shall be applicable to the interim school board
26 and its members.

27 G. All authority that is granted to the interim school board by this
28 Section shall expire upon the taking of office of the initial members of the St.
29 George Community School Board once the initial members are elected pursuant
30 to R.S. 17:68.1. However, the elected school board may take formal action to

1 continue the interim school board as an advisory body on matters previously
2 under the jurisdiction of the interim board.

3 H. The governor shall appoint an interim school superintendent who
4 shall serve until the elected school board chooses a new school superintendent
5 who shall meet the qualifications of R.S. 17:54.

6 I. The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall:

7 (1) Work cooperatively and collaboratively with the interim school board
8 and the St. George Community School Board to effect the transfer of the
9 students, buildings and other facilities, property, instructional materials, buses,
10 and all other assets related to the schools located within the geographic
11 boundaries of the St. George Community School System in an efficient and
12 expeditious manner.

13 (2) Provide the interim school board for the St. George Community
14 School System with immediate and complete access to:

15 (a) All school buildings and facilities associated with the schools located
16 within the geographic boundaries of the St. George Community School System.
17 Such access shall include making the school buildings and facilities to be
18 transferred available, free of charge, to the interim school board or the elected
19 school board for the St. George Community School System for purposes of
20 conducting board and community meetings and other functions and activities
21 related to the operation of the St. George Community School System.

22 (b) All student records and any other student-related files associated
23 with students enrolled in the schools to be transferred to the St. George
24 Community School System.

25 (c) All financial records associated with the schools to be transferred to
26 the St. George Community School System, including those related to building
27 maintenance, taxes, insurance, and indebtedness.

28 J. The East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall not:

29 (1) Interfere, or impede in any way, with the processes to transfer the
30 students, buildings and other facilities, property, instructional materials and

1 equipment, buses, and all other assets related to the schools located within the
2 geographical boundaries of the St. George Community School System to the St.
3 George Community School Board.

4 (2) Sell, transfer, or otherwise remove any asset or thing of value,
5 movable or immovable, corporeal or incorporeal, that is attributable to the
6 schools to be transferred to the St. George Community School System prior to
7 such transfer.

8 (3) Incur, transfer, or assign any debt or other responsibility or
9 obligation to schools to be transferred to the St. George Community School
10 System that is not properly attributable to such schools.

11 §68.3. Redistribution of Minimum Foundation Program to other school systems

12 To ensure that the creation of the St. George Community School District
13 does not have a negative impact on the minimum foundation program allocation
14 to school systems, beginning in the fiscal year of July 1, 2027, and continuing for
15 the next four fiscal years, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
16 Education shall identify the districts in parishes other than East Baton Rouge
17 on which the creation of the St. George Community School System causes a
18 negative impact and determine the amount of the negative impact on the
19 minimum foundation per pupil allocation. The State Board of Elementary and
20 Secondary Education shall withhold the total of the amounts of the negative
21 impact on all districts in parishes other than East Baton Rouge from the total
22 Minimum Foundation Program allocation to the St. George Community School
23 District and transfer those funds on a per pupil basis to such districts.

24 §68.4. Unfunded accrued liability; payment

25 In the event that the establishment or the operation of the St. George
26 Community School District results in the elimination of one or more positions
27 of current members of the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System by
28 means of privatizing, outsourcing, or contracting the service with a private
29 employer, vendor, or by any other means, the St. George Community School
30 District shall remit that portion of the unfunded accrued liability attributable

1 to that position or positions pursuant to R.S. 11:1195.2.

2 §68.5. Benefits of reemployed retirees and Legacy Benefit Trust Fund for
3 Retirees of East Baton Rouge Parish School System

4 A.(1) The East Baton Rouge Parish School System shall provide annually
5 to the St. George Community School System an itemization of all post
6 employment benefits to be paid by the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board
7 for the benefit of every individual hired by the St. George Community School
8 System as a full-time employee.

9 (2) Utilizing the annual calculation method provided in Subsection B of
10 this Section, the St. George Community School System shall reimburse, via the
11 trust created in Subsection B of this Section, the East Baton Rouge Parish
12 School System on a quarterly basis for all post employment benefits for all
13 employees hired by the St. George Community School System as full-time
14 employees until all post-employment benefits to which the individuals are
15 entitled has been paid in full.

16 B.(1) A trust to be known as the "St. George Schools Legacy Benefit
17 Trust for Retirees of the East Baton Rouge Parish School System" shall be
18 established pursuant to R.S. 17:1224. Within twelve months of beginning
19 operation and then annually thereafter, the St. George Community School
20 System shall deposit into the trust an initial sum necessary to cover the amounts
21 that are required in this Section. The trust shall make quarterly payments to the
22 East Baton Rouge Parish School System in order to satisfy the requirements of
23 Subsection A of this Section.

24 (2) The annual sum to be deposited into the trust by the St. George
25 School System pursuant to Section shall be based upon the following:

26 (a) The amount which represents the total costs of providing the post
27 employment benefits for those individuals described in Subsection A of this
28 Section shall be divided by the number of students enrolled in the East Baton
29 Rouge Parish School System for the school year prior to July 1, 2027, thereby,
30 representing the per pupil amount of the total cost of the post employment

1 benefits. The per pupil amount shall then be multiplied by the total number of
2 students enrolled in the St. George Community School for the school year after
3 July 1, 2027, representing the amount of the payment to the trust.

4 (b) For the school year beginning on July 1, 2028, and for all subsequent
5 years thereafter, the amount deposited shall be the per pupil costs utilizing the
6 initial student enrollment data for the respective two school districts and the per
7 pupil formula applicable to the amount owed to satisfy the obligation provided
8 for in Subsection A of this Section.

9 C. In the event it is determined by an actuarial study that the funds on
10 deposit in the Legacy Benefit Trust for Retirees of the East Baton Rouge Parish
11 School System are sufficient to pay the costs of the legacy benefits due to a
12 proportionate share of individuals who retired from the East Baton Rouge
13 Parish School System prior to the date in which the St. George Community
14 begins the actual operation of educating students, St. George Community
15 School System shall not be required to make any additional payments to the
16 Legacy Benefit Trust for Retirees of the East Baton Rouge Parish School
17 System.

18 §68.6. Payments to East Baton Rouge Parish Educational Facilities

19 Improvement District

20 A. No later than June 1, 2027, the East Baton Rouge Parish Educational
21 Facilities Improvement District shall provide to the St. George Community
22 School Board a schedule of values for any construction completed within the
23 boundaries of the St. George Community School System with the proceeds of
24 Qualified School Construction Bonds issued prior to the effective date of this
25 Act, an accounting of payments made and to be made through the effective date
26 of this Act, on the construction bonds, and a payment schedule showing the
27 unpaid principal and interest due for the construction projects.

28 B. Beginning on July 1, 2027, the St. George Community School System
29 shall reimburse East Baton Rouge Parish Educational Facilities Improvement
30 District an amount equal to the percentage of the debt service paid in the

1 preceding fiscal year attributable to the construction completed within the
 2 boundaries of the St. George Community School District. The reimbursement
 3 shall be made to East Baton Rouge Parish Educational Facilities Improvement
 4 District within thirty days of receipt by the St. George Community School
 5 District of payment confirmation for the debt service attributable to
 6 construction completed within the boundaries of the St. George Community
 7 School System.

8 §68.7. Mutual agreements regarding distribution of assets and liabilities
 9 between school boards

10 A. No later than sixty days after the effective date of this Act, the East
 11 Baton Rouge Parish School Board and the St. George Community School Board
 12 shall meet jointly to begin the process to determine the fair and equitable
 13 division of all assets and liabilities between the two school boards related to the
 14 formation of the St. George Community School System. The two school boards
 15 shall mutually agree upon an actuary, an appraiser, an auditor, or any other
 16 professional advisor deemed necessary by the two school boards to determine
 17 the valuation of the assets and liabilities. The date of the valuations shall be the
 18 effective date of this Act.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

14 (4) Post employment benefits that are due to employees who retired from
15 schools located within the geographic boundaries of the St. George Community
16 School System prior to the effective date of this Act. In order to equitably
17 manage the risks associated with and the costs of providing the post
18 employment benefits, the benefit costs shall be calculated on the basis of the
19 benefit plan adopted by the St. George Community School Board for those
20 employees who are employed by the St. George Community School System after
21 the effective date of this Act.

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

27 E. If the two school boards are not able to reach a mutual agreement
28 with respect to the distribution of assets and liabilities, then the two school
29 boards may mutually agree upon an additional service provider to assist in
30 amicable resolution.

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

5 **G. For purposes of this Section, the following terms whether used in the**
6 **singular or plural, shall have the following meanings:**

7 **(1) "Employees who are retired" or "retiree" means every person who**
8 **was employed by the school board including administrators, classroom teachers,**
9 **coaches, librarians, counselors, teachers' aides, clerical employees, lunchroom**
10 **workers, custodial workers, school bus operators, school bus operators' aides,**
11 **noninstructional employees, janitors, custodial workers, maintenance workers,**
12 **bus aides, attendants, or monitors.**

13 **(2) "Post employment benefits" means health insurance or life insurance**
14 **attributable to a retiree who was previously employed on the date of his**
15 **retirement at a school located within the geographic boundaries of the**
16 **St. George Community School System prior to the effective date of this Act.**

17 Section 2. R.S. 17:58.2(I) and 67 through 67.4 are hereby repealed.

18 Section 3. Any high school student residing within the geographic boundaries of the
19 St. George Community School System or the East Baton Rouge Parish School System may
20 elect to remain enrolled in the high school that the student was attending on the effective
21 date of this Act, until such time as the student graduates from high school. Such student shall
22 be included in the membership count for the school system in which he is enrolled for all
23 purposes, including state funding through the Minimum Foundation Program formula.

24 Section 4.(A) Any school student in an elementary or secondary school that resides
25 within the geographic boundaries of the St. George Community School System or the East
26 Baton Rouge Parish School System may elect to remain enrolled in the school that the
27 student was attending on the effective date of this Act as provided in this Section. Such
28 student shall be included in the membership count for the school system in which he is
29 enrolled for all purposes, including state funding through the Minimum Foundation Program
30 formula.

1 (B) A student in kindergarten through fifth grade may remain enrolled in the school
2 attended on the effective date of this Act until the completion of fifth grade, and a student
3 in sixth through eighth grade may remain enrolled in the school attended on the effective
4 date of this Act until the completion of eighth grade.

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

8 Section 5. This Act shall take effect and become operative if and when a proposed
9 amendment to Article VIII, Section 13(D)(1) of the Constitution of Louisiana is adopted at
10 a statewide election and which amendment authorizes the St. George Community School
11 System, as created in this Act or authorizes the creation of school districts by legislative act,
12 as a system to be regarded and treated as a parish and have the authority granted to a parish
13 school system as provided in Article VIII, Section 13 of the Constitution of Louisiana.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____