

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 434

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILDER

SCHOOLS/BUS OPERATORS: Grants certain powers, duties, and responsibilities relative to a school bus operator's probationary term of employment to the superintendent instead of the school board

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:492(A)(introductory paragraph), relative to school bus
3 operators; to provide for the probationary term of employment for school bus
4 operators; to provide for the authority of the superintendent relative to their
5 discharge or dismissal; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:492(A)(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and reenacted
8 to read as follows:

9 §492. Probation and tenure of bus operators

10 A. Each school bus operator shall serve a probationary term of three years
11 reckoned from the date of his first employment in the city, parish, or other local
12 public school system in which the operator is serving his probation. During the
13 probationary term, the superintendent city, parish, or other local public school board
14 may dismiss or discharge any operator upon ~~the written recommendation of the local~~
15 ~~superintendent of schools accompanied by valid reasons therefor~~ providing the
16 operator with written reasons therefor and providing the operator with the
17 opportunity to respond. The operator shall have seven calendar days from such
18 written notice to respond, in person or in writing, and such response shall be included
19 in the operator's personnel file. A school board shall immediately dismiss or

1 discharge an operator who is convicted of or has pled nolo contendere to a violation
 2 of a parish or municipal ordinance that prohibits operating a vehicle while
 3 intoxicated or any of the following offenses relative to operating a vehicle while
 4 intoxicated, regardless of whether the violation occurred while the operator was
 5 performing an official duty or responsibility as a school bus operator at the time of
 6 the offense:

7 * * *

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 434 Original

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Wilder

Abstract: Provides relative to the procedure for dismissal of bus operators who are serving a probationary term.

Present law provides that a school bus operator shall serve a probationary term of three years reckoned from the date of his first employment. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that during the probationary term, the school board may dismiss or discharge an operator upon written recommendation of the superintendent accompanied by valid reasons therefor. Proposed law instead allows the superintendent to dismiss or discharge the operator and requires the superintendent to provide the reasons in writing to the operator. Provides that the operator has seven days to respond in person or in writing.

(Amends R.S. 17:492(A)(intro. para.))