

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1003

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

SCHOOLS: Provides relative to overcapacity of schools within certain school districts

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3982(B)(2)(a), and to enact R.S. 17:10.7.1(J), relative to  
3 certain schools returned from the Recovery School District; to provide relative to  
4 certain charter schools; to provide relative to overcapacity in a school district; to  
5 provide for reporting; to provide for the lease or sale of certain property; to provide  
6 for the powers and duties of a local school board; to provide for the powers and  
7 duties of a local superintendent; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:3982(B)(2)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
10 17:10.7.1(J) is hereby enacted and to read as follows:

11 §10.7.1. Return of certain schools from the Recovery School District to the  
12 transferring school system; timeline; conditions; funding

13 \* \* \*

14 J.(1)(a) The local school board shall adopt a policy to define, monitor, and  
15 mitigate systemwide overcapacity relative to the number of operating schools in  
16 accordance with the provisions of this Subsection. At a minimum, the policy shall  
17 contain the following:

18 (b) The policy shall establish quantitative standards for overcapacity of  
19 schools with jurisdiction over grades kindergarten through eight and schools with

1 jurisdiction over grades nine through twelve. At a minimum, the metrics for such  
2 standards shall include the following:

3 (i) Student enrollment projections.

4 (ii) Student demographic projections.

5 (iii) Programmatic seat capacity.

6 (iv) Facility utilization targets.

7 (c) The superintendent shall submit a written report utilizing the most recent  
8 enrollment data available to the school board by November fifteenth annually. The  
9 report shall include a formal determination of whether the district is in a status of  
10 overcapacity of schools with jurisdiction over grades kindergarten through eight,  
11 schools with jurisdiction over grades nine through twelve, or both categories of  
12 schools. An overcapacity status shall remain in effect until the superintendent  
13 submits a report demonstrating such status no longer exists.

14 (d) Upon a determination of overcapacity, the superintendent shall  
15 recommend to the school board specific actions to be implemented the following  
16 school year to mitigate overcapacity. The superintendent shall submit the  
17 recommendations by December fifteenth of the same calendar year that the  
18 superintendent submits the report pursuant to Subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph, or  
19 at the school board or committee meeting where charter renewal recommendations  
20 are presented, whichever occurs first. In determining the recommendations, the  
21 superintendent shall consider relevant factors including but not limited to district  
22 accountability policies and academic performance standards.

23 (e) The superintendent may implement recommendations submitted to the  
24 board pursuant to Subparagraph (d) of this Paragraph, unless the board rejects the  
25 recommendations by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the board within  
26 thirty days after submission of the recommendations to the board, or by  
27 December thirty-first of the same calendar year as submission of the  
28 recommendations to the board, whichever occurs first.





Proposed law exempts the board from such lease or sale if the vacancy is due to reducing systemwide overcapacity pursuant to proposed law if a recommendation of the superintendent to otherwise utilize the property is approved by a majority vote of the board.

(Amends R.S. 17:3982(B)(2)(a); Adds R.S. 17:10.7.1(J))