

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 283

2026 Regular Session

Newell

SCHOOLS: Provides relative to incidents of assault and battery on students and school employees.

DIGEST

Proposed law provides that proposed law shall be known and may be cited as the "Teacher's Shield Act".

Student discipline

Present law provides that when a student is formally accused of violating present law or school disciplinary rules, or both, by committing a battery or an assault on any school employee, the principal shall suspend the student from school immediately and the student shall be removed immediately from the school premises.

Proposed law retains present law, applies present law to incidents that occur on or off of school property and to when the victim is a student, and defines "school employee" as any person employed by the school and any substitute teacher, substitute bus operator, or school volunteer.

Proposed law provides that an incident that occurs off of school property must be a continuation of a documented altercation that began on school property for proposed law to apply.

Present law prohibits a student from being considered for readmission to the school to which the school employee, allegedly assaulted or battered, or both, by the student, is assigned until all hearings and appeals associated with the alleged violation have been exhausted.

Proposed law retains present law and also prohibits the student from being considered for readmission to the school to which the other student, allegedly assaulted or battered, or both, is assigned until all hearings and appeals associated with the alleged violation have been exhausted.

Present law prohibits a student found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of violating present law or found guilty at a school system suspension hearing of committing a battery or assault on any school employee, or both, from being assigned to attend or attending the school to which the school employee battered or assaulted by the student is assigned, except when the school system has no other school of suitable grade level for the student to attend.

Proposed law retains present law but removes the present law exception, further requires that the student be immediately recommended for expulsion, and also applies present law to incidents when the victim is a student. Provides that any such expulsion shall be no less than two complete school semesters in duration, during which time the superintendent shall place the student in an alternative school or in an alternative educational placement as provided in present law and the student shall participate in an anger management program. Further provides that a student expelled as provided in proposed law shall not, under any circumstances, be assigned to or allowed to attend the school to which the school employee or student battered or assaulted by the student is assigned. Proposed law provides that discipline of a student with exceptionalities cannot conflict with state and federal law. Requires all documentation relative to present law and proposed law to be included and maintained in student records.

Employee sick leave

Present law allows up to a year of sick leave, without loss of pay or loss of accumulated leave, for teachers and other school employees if injured or disabled while acting in their official capacity as a result of assault or battery by any student or person; circumstances vary depending on whether the employee is employed by a state special school or a local public

school board and is a teacher, a bus operator, or other school employee. Proposed law retains present law and specifies that such sick leave may be used for purposes including but not limited to medical treatment, psychological treatment, and physical rehabilitation.

(Amends R.S. 17:416(A)(1)(c)(vii)(aa) and (cc); Adds R.S. 17:47(C)(1)(a)(iv), 416(A)(1)(c)(vii)(ee), 500.1(C)(3), 1201(C)(3), and 1206.1(A)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Broaden the application of proposed law to incidents when the victim of the assault or battery is a student.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Makes technical changes.
2. Requires documentation of an altercation if an incident occurs off school property.
3. Provides that discipline of a student with exceptionalities cannot conflict with state and federal law.