

ACT No. 823

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 682

BY REPRESENTATIVES DICKERSON AND CHASSION AND SENATORS EDMONDS, HODGES, MIGUEZ, AND MIZELL

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:416.19.1 and 3996(B)(24), relative to the employment of veterans at
3 schools; to provide for definitions; to provide relative to veterans; to provide relative
4 to charter schools; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:416.19.1 and 3996(B)(24) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

7 §416.19.1. School guardians

8 A. "School guardian" means a veteran as defined in R.S. 13:5364, who meets
9 all of the following criteria:

10 (1) He was honorably discharged from the Armed Forces of the United
11 States as evidenced by a Department of Defense form DD 214.

12 (2) He successfully completed the requisite background check as provided
13 by applicable law.

14 (3) He completed school incident training with law enforcement and school
15 officials including but not limited to annual training in firearms safety, self-defense,
16 de-escalation tactics, mental health incidents, disability awareness, and training in
17 active threats at school, basic trauma, and first aid.

18 (4) He is employed or contracted by a city, parish, or other local public
19 school system, a nonpublic school, or a law enforcement agency.

20 (5) He operates under policies adopted by the public school governing
21 authority or nonpublic school regarding scope of duties, authority, and use of force.

22 (6) He is physically and mentally capable of performing assigned duties.

23 B. (1) A school guardian as provided in this Section shall not be considered
24 a peace officer, and shall not have arrest powers, unless separately commissioned in

1 accordance with applicable law, and shall have only such authority as is expressly
2 granted by the employing authority and applicable law.

3 (2) A school guardian may take actions necessary to prevent an active threat
4 and temporarily detain an individual when the guardian has reasonable cause to
5 believe the individual has committed or is about to commit a felony.

6 (3) The provisions of Code of Criminal Procedure Article 214 shall apply to
7 actions taken by a guardian pursuant to this Subsection.

8 * * *

9 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

10 * * *

11 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
12 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
13 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
14 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
15 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
16 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
17 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

18 * * *

19 (24) School guardians, R.S. 17:416.19.1.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____