

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 738 (SB 132)

2026 Regular Session

Kleinpeter

Access to locked school facilities

New law requires each public school governing authority, that has not, prior to Jan.1, 2028, instituted a system for allowing access to locked facilities by law enforcement officials and other first responders, to install at least one exterior master key box on the campus of each public school under its jurisdiction. Requires the governing authority to use funds appropriated by the legislature to the La. Center for Safe Schools for such purpose.

New law defines "exterior master key box" as a secure, wall-mounted, anti-theft resistant container that is installed outside a school's building to provide first responders with immediate access to the school during a school crisis to allow for rapid response and rescue.

New law requires each exterior master key box to be installed at a location on the school's campus that is determined by the school board in collaboration with certain local law enforcement agencies.

New law requires each master key box to meet the basic commercial applications standard for anti-theft alarms and devices.

Blueprints and school mapping data

Existing law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the state Dept. of Education to coordinate with the La. Center for Safe Schools to provide mapping data of public schools to local law enforcement. Implementation of existing law is subject to appropriation of monies by the legislature for such purpose. Requires each city, parish, and other local public school system governing authority or a vendor to submit a copy of the most recent blueprints and school mapping data of each school building and facility in the school system to certain local law enforcement agencies.

New law retains existing law and further requires the method by which law enforcement officers and other first responders can obtain access to locked facilities, including all external and internal locks, or the location of the exterior master key box to be included in such submission with the blueprints and school mapping data.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:416.16.1(A)(1), (2), and (4), and (E); Adds R.S. 17:416.16.1(F))