

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 1178

BY REPRESENTATIVES HONORE AND CARTER

SCHOOLS: Provides relative to the membership and election of members of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:57, 58, and 58.2(A), (B), and (C), relative to the East Baton  
3 Rouge Parish School Board; to provide for the membership of the board, for districts,  
4 and for election of the members; and to provide for related matters.

5 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published  
6 as provided by Article III, Section 13 of the Constitution of  
7 Louisiana.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:57, 58, and 58.2(A), (B), and (C) are hereby amended and  
10 reenacted to read as follows:

11 §57. Representation of municipalities on parish boards

12 ~~Whenever~~ Except as provided in R.S. 17:58 through 58.2, if a parish contains  
13 a municipality the population of which is more than one-half of that of the entire  
14 parish, the municipality shall have representation on the parish school board  
15 proportionate to its population.

16 §58. East Baton Rouge Parish School Board; membership; terms

17 A.(1) ~~Until a single-member district plan is developed and approved in~~  
18 ~~accordance with the provisions of R.S. 17:58.2, Excluding the Baker municipal~~  
19 ~~school system, the Zachary Community School Board, and the Central Community~~  
20 School Board, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall ~~continue to consist~~

~~of twelve members~~ be comprised of seven members elected at the congressional elections. Of the seven members, one member shall be elected at large by the qualified electors of the entire East Baton Rouge Parish school district and six members shall be elected from single-member districts.

(2) Each member of the board elected to office shall continue in office until the expiration of the term for which he was elected and until his successor is qualified and takes office as otherwise provided by law. Board members shall serve four-year terms.

(3) The provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall be effective for the limited purpose of qualification and election of school board members in 2014, and shall become effective for all purposes on January 1, 2015.

B. ~~Until a single-member district plan is developed and approved in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 17:58.2, the members of the board shall continue to be elected from the following districts and in the following number from each district:~~ the members of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board elected in 2014 are elected and take office, the school board shall continue to be comprised of eleven members elected from single-member districts.

~~(1) Seven members from the area composed of Ward 1 of the parish of East Baton Rouge.~~

~~(2) Three members from the area composed of Ward 2 of the parish of East Baton Rouge.~~

~~(3) Two members from the area composed of Ward 3 of the parish of East Baton Rouge.~~

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§58.2. East Baton Rouge Parish School Board; reapportionment; election districts;  
terms

A. At the election for school board members to be held at the same time as the congressional elections in ~~1982~~ 2014, and thereafter, the seven members of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall be elected ~~from~~ as follows:

1           (1) One member shall be elected by the qualified electors of the entire East  
2           Baton Rouge Parish school district.

3           (2) Six members shall be elected from single-member districts.

4           ~~B.(1) On or before December 31, 1981~~ Before August 1, 2014, the East  
5           Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall develop a plan to divide the ~~parish~~ East  
6           Baton Rouge Parish School Board district into six single-member districts from each  
7           of which one member of ~~said~~ the board shall be elected. Such districts shall be  
8           drawn with as equal population as possible, utilizing population figures from the  
9           ~~1980~~ 2010 United States government decennial census. ~~Each member of the board~~  
10          ~~shall be elected at the election for school board members to be held at the~~  
11          ~~congressional election to be held in 1982. The members elected in 1982, and their~~  
12          ~~successors in office, shall serve for four-year concurrent terms.~~

13          ~~(2) Copies of the proposed single-member district plan shall be submitted~~  
14          ~~to the members of the East Baton Rouge Parish legislative delegation for approval~~  
15          ~~no later than January 15, 1982. The proposed plan shall be approved if the chairman~~  
16          ~~of the East Baton Rouge Parish legislative delegation files with the secretary of state~~  
17          ~~a notarized statement that the parish delegation has held a public meeting to consider~~  
18          ~~the plan, after due public notice, and a majority of the total membership of the~~  
19          ~~delegation has voted to approve the plan. The notarized statement must be filed no~~  
20          ~~later than April 1, 1982. If the East Baton Rouge Parish legislative delegation does~~  
21          ~~not approve the plan submitted by the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, the~~  
22          ~~legislature shall develop and enact such a plan no later than June 30, 1982.~~

23          C. Prior to final adoption of the apportionment plan required ~~above~~ by  
24          Subsection B of this Section or any future alteration, change or rearrangement of  
25          school board election districts, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall order  
26          a public hearing on the proposed plan, alteration, change, or rearrangement and shall  
27          cause to be published in a newspaper published within the parish at least ~~twenty~~ (20)  
28          ten days prior to the date of such hearing, the time and place thereof, a general

1 summary and map of the proposed plan, and the times and places where copies of the  
2 proposed plan are available for public inspection.

3 \* \* \*

4 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature of the governor or, if not  
5 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
6 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
7 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
8 effective on the day following such approval.

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#### 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)]

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Honore

HB No. 1178

**Abstract:** Provides for the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, including provisions for membership and redistricting.

Present law provides for a previous redistricting of the East Baton Parish School Board. (Note: the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board currently has 11 members elected from single-member districts).

Proposed law provides that, excluding the Baker municipal school system, the Zachary Community School Board, and the Central Community School Board, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall be comprised of seven members. Provides that, of the seven members, one member shall be elected at large by the qualified electors of the entire East Baton Rouge Parish school district and six members shall be elected from six single-member districts. Provides that these provisions shall be effective for the limited purpose of qualification and election of school board members in 2014, and shall become effective for all purposes on Jan. 1, 2015. Further provides that until a single-member district plan is developed and approved in accordance with proposed law below, the board shall continue to be comprised of 11 members elected from single-member districts.

Present law provides that the members of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall be elected from single-member districts. Provides for the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board to develop a plan for single-member school board districts. Requires that such districts be drawn with as equal population as possible using population figures from the U.S. census.

Proposed law provides instead that, at the school board election in 2014, one member of the board shall be elected at large by the qualified electors of the entire East Baton Rouge Parish School Board district and that the remaining members shall be elected from single-member districts. Requires the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, before Aug. 1, 2014, to develop a plan to divide the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board district into six single-member districts. Provides that districts be drawn with as equal population as possible, utilizing population figures from the 2010 U.S. census.

Present law, relative to the prior apportionment plan or any future alteration, change, or rearrangement of school board election districts, requires the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board to order a public hearing on the proposed plan, alteration, change, or rearrangement and publish a notice of the hearing at least 20 days prior to the hearing, giving the time and place thereof, a general summary and map of the proposed plan, and the times and places where copies of the proposed plan are available for public inspection.

Proposed law retains present law making it applicable to the plan required by proposed law. Changes the time for publication of notice to at least 10, rather than at least 20 days, before the hearing.

Present law provides procedures for approval of an earlier school board redistricting plan by the members of the East Baton Rouge Parish legislative delegation. Provided that, if the delegation did not approve the plan, the legislature would develop and enact a plan. Proposed law removes these provisions.

Present law requires, when a parish contains a municipality the population of which is more than one-half that of the entire parish, that the municipality have representation on the parish school board proportionate to its population. Proposed law excepts the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board from this requirement.

Proposed law retains present law that provides that East Baton Rouge Parish School Board members shall continue in office until the expiration of the term for which elected and until their successors are qualified and take office and that board members serve four-year terms.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:57, 58, and 58.2(A), (B), and (C))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill.

1. Makes technical changes.