HLS 17RS-368 ENGROSSED

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 20

BY REPRESENTATIVES PRICE, BERTHELOT, BACALA, BOUIE, BROADWATER, HALL, LEGER, AND SMITH

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS: Provides relative to exemptions from the requirements for school instructional time under certain circumstances

1	AN ACT
2	To enact R.S. 17:154.1(A)(6), relative to minimum requirements for instructional time for
3	students in public schools; to provide for applicability of such requirements under
4	certain circumstances; to provide for exceptions; and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 17:154.1(A)(6) is hereby enacted to read as follows:
7	§154.1. Length of school day and year; requirements
8	A.
9	* * *
10	(6)(a) Effective for the 2016-2017 school year and thereafter, the provisions
11	of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall not apply to any city, parish, or other public
12	school that cannot meet those requirements because the school temporarily shared
13	facilities with another school due to damages caused by a natural catastrophe or
14	disaster that was declared by the governor pursuant to R.S. 29:724 and that was
15	certified by the state superintendent of education and approved by the State Board
16	of Elementary and Secondary Education as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this
17	Paragraph. The state board may require that the school provide a minimum number
18	of daily instructional minutes that is less than the requirements set forth in Paragraph

(1) of this Subsection and provide other requirements it deems necessary to support student learning.

(b) Such certification by the superintendent and approval by the board shall be in accordance with criteria established pursuant to rules and regulations adopted by the board for such purpose in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Such rules and regulations shall include but not be limited to a requirement that any such school not able to meet the requirements of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection shall submit to the state superintendent of education for approval, in accordance with time lines established by the state board, documented information explaining why the school could not meet such requirements, any efforts made by the school toward meeting the requirements, and a revised school calendar for the affected school year.

\* \* \*

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

## DIGEST

vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become

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effective on the day following such approval.

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**Abstract:** Provides relative to the applicability of the minimum requirements for instructional time to schools that cannot meet such requirements because the school temporarily shared facilities with another school due to damages caused by a natural catastrophe or disaster.

<u>Present law</u> (R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1)) provides that the minimum school day for grades one through 12 in every public school shall consist of 360 minutes of instructional time and the minimum school year shall consist of 177 days of instruction. Authorizes school governing authorities to modify the total number of instructional minutes per day and instructional days per year under certain conditions, provided the minimum total instructional minutes for the year is not changed.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and adds that, effective for the 2016-2017 school year and thereafter, <u>present law</u> requirements relative to instructional time shall not be applicable to any public school that cannot meet such requirements because the school temporarily shared

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

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facilities with another school due to damages caused by a natural catastrophe or disaster that was declared by the governor pursuant to <u>present law</u> and that was certified by the state superintendent of education and approved by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Authorizes BESE to require that the school provide a minimum number of daily instructional minutes that is less than <u>present law</u> requirements. Requires that any such school not able to meet <u>present law</u> requirements submit to the state superintendent documented information explaining why the school could not meet such requirements, any efforts made by the school toward meeting the requirements, and a revised school calendar for the affected school year.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:154.1(A)(6))