

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 251

BY REPRESENTATIVE ECHOLS

SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Requests that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education study and report relative to the voting threshold required for parental approval for the conversion of a preexisting school to a charter school

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the
3 voting threshold required by law for parental approval relative to the conversion of
4 a preexisting school to a charter school and to submit a written report of findings and
5 conclusions, including but not limited to recommendations for legislation pertaining
6 to the potential modification of this requirement, to the House Committee on
7 Education not later than January 31, 2026.

8 WHEREAS, present law provides that the purposes of the Louisiana Public Charter
9 School Law (R.S. 17:3971 et seq.) are to increase school choice options throughout the state
10 and to provide opportunities for parents, educators, and others to form, operate, or be
11 employed within an operationally autonomous charter school designed to accomplish certain
12 educational objectives; and

13 WHEREAS, this law provides for various types of charter schools, including
14 preexisting schools that are converted to charter schools, and provides a process for
15 conversion, including a requirement relative to parental approval; and

WHEREAS, the law provides that approval by the parents of students attending a preexisting school proposed to be converted to a charter school requires a favorable vote of the majority of the parents of students enrolled in the school at the time of the election who are voting, provided the number of votes cast equals at least fifty percent of the number of

1 students; the law further provides that there shall be one vote for each student enrolled in the
2 school which may be cast by one parent for each student; and

3 WHEREAS, concern has been expressed that it can be challenging for parents in
4 rural schools to participate in school-wide votes and to meet the voting threshold required
5 by law.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
7 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and
8 Secondary Education to study the voting threshold required by law for parental approval
9 relative to the conversion of a preexisting school to a charter school and submit a written
10 report of findings and conclusions to the House Committee on Education not later than
11 January 31, 2026.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report include recommendations for
13 legislation for how this requirement might be modified in order to better meet the needs of
14 Louisiana's students and fulfill the purposes of the Louisiana Public Charter School Law.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
16 president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state
17 superintendent of education.

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)]

HR 251 Engrossed

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Echols

Requests that the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education study the voting threshold required by law for parental approval relative to the conversion of a preexisting school to a charter school and submit a written report of findings and conclusions, including recommendations relative to the potential modification of this requirement, to the House Committee on Education by Jan. 31, 2026.