Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 454

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

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

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:500.2(A)(1), 1176, 1202(A)(1), and 1206.2(A)(1), relative
3	to the granting of certain types of leave by a city, parish, or other local public school
4	board; to provide relative to the requirement that the board grant certain sabbatical
5	leave requests; to provide relative to the requirement that the board permit certain
6	employees to take extended sick leave; to provide exceptions to such requirements;
7	to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.
8	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
9	Section 1. This Act shall be known as the "Education Reform Act".
10	Section 2. R.S. 17:500.2(A)(1), 1176, 1202(A)(1), and 1206.2(A)(1) are hereby
11	amended and reenacted to read as follows:
12	§500.2. School bus operators; extended sick leave
13	A.(1)(a) Except as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, Every
14	every city, and parish, and other local public school board shall permit each school
15	bus operator to take up to ninety days of extended sick leave in each six-year period
16	of employment, which may be used for personal illness or illness of an immediate
17	family member in the manner provided in this Subsection at any time that the school
18	bus operator has no remaining regular sick leave balance.
19	(b) For Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and Fiscal Year 2012-2013, a city, parish, or
20	other local public school board may but shall not be required to comply with the
21	provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph during a fiscal year for which the
22	amount of the state and local base per pupil cost determination, as established in the
23	minimum foundation program formula most recently approved by the legislature, is
24	not an increase of at least two and seventy-five hundredths percent over the amount

Page 1 of 5

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

HB NO. 454 ENROLLED

established for the previous fiscal year, and at the beginning of such fiscal year the school board has a fund balance deficit that exceeds five percent and an unrestricted fund balance of less than seven and one-half percent. However, the school board shall honor any approved leave that it approved prior to the date the minimum foundation program formula is approved by the legislature.

(c)(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, in the case of a catastrophic illness or injury, a school board shall comply with the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

(ii) For the purposes of this Subparagraph, "catastrophic illness or injury" means a life-threatening, chronic, or incapacitating condition affecting an employee or a member of an employee's immediate family, as verified by a licensed physician.

* * *

§1176. Grounds for rejection of application

<u>A.</u> Any applicant who, at the expiration of the semester in which he applies, is ineligible for the sabbatical leave requested or who has not complied with the provisions of R.S. 17:1172 through 17:1174, shall have his or her application rejected, but all other applicants shall have their applications granted, <u>except as provided in Subsection B of this Section</u>, provided that all leaves requested in such applications could be taken without violating the following provision: At no time during the school year shall the number of persons on sabbatical leave exceed five percent of the total number of teachers employed in a given parish.

B. For Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and Fiscal Year 2012-2013, a city, parish, or other local public school board may but shall not be required to grant leave applications pursuant to Subsection A of this Section during a fiscal year for which the amount of the state and local base per pupil cost determination, as established in the minimum foundation program formula most recently approved by the legislature, is not an increase of at least two and seventy-five hundredths percent over the amount established for the previous fiscal year, and at the beginning of such fiscal year the school board has a fund balance deficit that exceeds five percent and an unrestricted fund balance of less than seven and one-half percent. However, the

HB NO. 454 ENROLLED

school board shall honor any approved leave that it approved prior to the date the minimum foundation program formula is approved by the legislature.

C.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection B of this Section, in the case of a catastrophic illness or injury, a school board shall comply with the provisions of Subsection A of this Section.

(2) For the purposes of this Subsection, "catastrophic illness or injury" means a life-threatening, chronic, or incapacitating condition affecting an employee or a member of an employee's immediate family, as verified by a licensed physician.

* * *

§1202. Teachers; extended sick leave

A.(1)(a) Except as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, Every parish and every city, parish, and other local public school board shall permit each teacher to take up to ninety days of extended sick leave in each six-year period of employment, which may be used for personal illness or illness of an immediate family member in the manner provided in this Subsection at any time that the teacher has no remaining regular sick leave balance.

(b) For Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and Fiscal Year 2012-2013, a city, parish, or other local public school board may but shall not be required to comply with the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph during a fiscal year for which the amount of the state and local base per pupil cost determination, as established in the minimum foundation program formula most recently approved by the legislature, is not an increase of at least two and seventy-five hundredths percent over the amount established for the previous fiscal year, and at the beginning of such fiscal year the school board has a fund balance deficit that exceeds five percent and an unrestricted fund balance of less than seven and one-half percent. However, the school board shall honor any approved leave that it approved prior to the date the minimum foundation program formula is approved by the legislature.

(c)(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, in the case of a catastrophic illness or injury, a school board shall comply with the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.

HB NO. 454 ENROLLED

	(ii) For the purpos	ses of th	is Subp	oaragraph	i, "catastro	phic illne	ss or injury"
means	s a life-threatening, cl	hronic, c	or incap	acitating	condition	affecting	an employee
or a m	ember of an employe	e's imm	ediate t	family, as	verified b	y a license	ed physician.
		*	*	*			

§1206.2. Employees; extended sick leave

A.(1)(a) Except as provided in Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, Each every city, parish, and other local public school board shall permit each employee, as defined in R.S. 17:1205 to take up to ninety days of extended sick leave in each six-year period of employment which may be used for personal illness or illness of an immediate family member in the manner provided in this Subsection at any time that the employee has no remaining regular sick leave balance.

- (b) For Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and Fiscal Year 2012-2013, a city, parish, or other local public school board may but shall not be required to comply with the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph during a fiscal year for which the amount of the state and local base per pupil cost determination, as established in the minimum foundation program formula most recently approved by the legislature, is not an increase of at least two and seventy-five hundredths percent over the amount established for the previous fiscal year, and at the beginning of such fiscal year the school board has a fund balance deficit that exceeds five percent and an unrestricted fund balance of less than seven and one-half percent. However, the school board shall honor any approved leave that it approved prior to the date the minimum foundation program formula is approved by the legislature.
- (c)(i) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subparagraph (b) of this Paragraph, in the case of a catastrophic illness or injury, a school board shall comply with the provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph.
- (ii) For the purposes of this Subparagraph, "catastrophic illness or injury" means a life-threatening, chronic, or incapacitating condition affecting an employee or a member of an employee's immediate family, as verified by a licensed physician.

29 * * *

1	Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if no						
2	signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature						
3	by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. I						
4	vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become						
5	effective on the day following such approval.						
	SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES						
	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE						
	GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA						

ENROLLED

HB NO. 454

APPROVED: _____