

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 594

BY SENATOR BROWN

SCHOOLS. Authorizes local school boards to provide transportation to certain students attending certain technical colleges. (8/1/12)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:158(I), relative to school transportation; to provide for the transportation
3 of certain students to certain technical colleges; to provide for responsibilities of city,
4 parish, and other local public school boards; to allow local school boards to assess
5 a fee to students using such transportation; to provide for exemptions; to provide for
6 the adoption of rules; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:158(I) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §158. School buses for transportation of students; employment of bus operators;
10 alternative means of transportation; improvement of school bus
11 turnarounds

12 * * *

13 **I. (1) Each city, parish, and other local public school board may provide**
14 **transportation to any full-time student who is twenty years of age or younger**
15 **and attending a technical college campus, that is part of the Louisiana**
16 **Community and Technical College System, within the jurisdictional boundaries**
17 **of the local board. If the closest technical college campus is located outside the**

1 **jurisdictional boundaries of the local school board, the board shall coordinate**
 2 **with neighboring boards to facilitate transportation to the technical college**
 3 **campus.**

4 **(2) Each local public school board may assess a fee to each student**
 5 **utilizing the transportation services provided pursuant to this Subsection, not**
 6 **to exceed the actual cost of providing such transportation, including**
 7 **administrative costs.**

8 **(3) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adopt**
 9 **rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to implement**
 10 **provisions of this Subsection.**

11 **(4) The provisions of this Subsection shall not apply to:**

12 **(a) Local public school boards in a parish with a population of more**
 13 **than three hundred thousand persons according to the most recent federal**
 14 **decennial census.**

15 **(b) Local public school boards in any parish that operates a parish-wide**
 16 **public transit system that provides sufficient service to meet the transportation**
 17 **needs of students attending technical colleges located in the parish.**

The original instrument was prepared by Alan Miller. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Jeanne Johnston.

DIGEST

Brown (SB 594)

Proposed law:

1. Authorizes each city, parish, and other local public school board to provide transportation to any student who is 20 years of age or younger and attending a technical college campus that is part of the La. Community and Technical College System and located within the jurisdictional boundaries of the board. Provides that if the closest technical college campus is located outside the jurisdictional boundaries of the local school board, such board shall coordinate with neighboring boards to facilitate transportation to the technical college campus.
2. Authorizes each local public school board to assess a fee to each student utilizing the transportation services provided by the board, not to exceed the actual cost of providing the transportation, including administrative costs.
3. Requires BESE to adopt rules in accordance with the APA to implement proposed law.

4. Exempts from proposed law:
- (a) Local public school boards in a parish with a population of more than 300,000, according to the most recent federal decennial census.
 - (b) Local public school boards in any parish that operates a parish-wide public transit system that provides sufficient service to meet the needs of students attending technical colleges located in the parish.

Effective August 1, 2012.

(Adds R.S. 17:158(I))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

- 1. Authorizes local school boards to provide transportation to certain technical college students instead of requiring them to do so.
- 2. Deletes the requirement that local school boards provide free transportation to students and authorizes local school boards to assess a fee to students utilizing their transportation services.
- 3. Provides that a technical college student must be a full-time student to be eligible to utilize transportation services provided by local school boards and reduces the maximum age to be eligible to utilize such transportation services from 22 to 20.
- 4. Requires BESE to promulgate rules to implement proposed law.
- 5. Exempts school boards in parishes with a population of 300,000 or more and school boards in parishes that provide a specified level of public transportation from proposed law.