

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:491 and 492, relative to tenure of school bus operators; to provide relative to a school bus operator becoming a regular and permanent employee of the employing school board; to provide definitions; to provide applicability; to provide relative to the removal of certain operators; to provide an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Section 1. R.S. 17:491 and 492 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

A. As used in this Subpart, the term "school bus operator" means any employee of any city, ~~or parish,~~ or other local public school board whose duty it is to transport students in any ~~city or parish~~ board school bus or activity bus to and from any school of suitable grade approved by the ~~state department~~ Department of Education or to and from any school-related school-related activity. Such employee shall be certified to have participated in any school bus drivers training program or in-service training provided by the ~~state department~~ Department of Education as provided for in R.S. 17:497.2 17:497.4, shall be at least twenty-one years of age, and shall be certified to have passed any written examination required by the department. It shall be unlawful for anyone not certified as provided herein to transport school students to and from any such school.

B. Employees of parish and city, parish, and other local public school boards

1 school board, be exempted from the age requirements provided ~~herein~~, by this
2 Section but shall meet those age requirements provided in R.S. 17:160.

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4 §492. Probation and tenure of bus operators

5 A. Each school bus operator shall serve a probationary term of three years
6 reckoned from the date of his first employment in the city, parish, or other local
7 public school system in which the operator is serving his probation. During the
8 probationary term, the city, parish, or other local public school board may dismiss
9 or discharge any operator upon the written recommendation of the ~~parish~~ local
10 superintendent of schools accompanied by valid reasons therefor.

11 B. ~~Any~~ Except as provided in Subsection D of this Section, any school bus
12 operator found unsatisfactory by the ~~parish~~ school board at the expiration of the
13 probationary term shall be notified in writing by the board that he has been
14 discharged or dismissed; in the absence of such notification such probationary school
15 bus operator shall automatically become a regular and permanent operator in the
16 employ of the school board of the ~~parish~~ school system in which he has successfully
17 served his probationary term; ~~provided that all school bus operators in the employ~~
18 ~~of any parish school board on July 26, 1944, and who have served satisfactorily as~~
19 ~~school bus operators for more than three consecutive years and who shall be~~
20 ~~employed for the school term of 1944-45, are declared to be regular and permanent~~
21 ~~school bus operators in the employ of the school board of that parish.~~

22 C. In order to acquire tenure under the provisions hereof, each school bus
23 operator shall personally operate and drive the school bus he is employed to operate;
24 no one shall acquire tenure in the operation of more than one school bus.

25 D.(1) The provisions of Subsection B of this Section, relative to a school bus
26 operator becoming a regular and permanent operator, are not applicable to any
27 school bus operator whose date of first employment with the school system is July
28 1, 2012, or thereafter.

29 (2) After the expiration of the probationary term provided in Subsection A
30 of this Section, a school bus operator whose date of first employment with a school

1 ~~system is July 1, 2012, or thereafter, may be removed from his position as provided~~
2 ~~by the personnel policy of the employing school board.~~

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

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____