Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 703

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDWARDS

SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Prohibits the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education from authorizing charter schools under certain circumstances

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3981(2), relative to the approval of proposed charter schools;
3	to prohibit the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education from authorizing
4	a charter school if the proposed charter was previously denied or conditioned by the
5	local school board and other specified conditions are met; and to provide for related
6	matters.
7	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
8	Section 1. R.S. 17:3981(2) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
9	§3981. State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; powers and duties
10	relative to charter schools
11	The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall:
12	* * *
13	(2) Enter into any proposed charter that complies with this Chapter and the
14	rules adopted pursuant to the authority in this Chapter that the board determines is
15	a valid, complete, financially well-structured, and educationally sound proposal that
16	offers potential for fulfilling the purposes of this Chapter. However, the state board
17	shall not enter into a proposed charter if the proposed school would be located in a
18	school system that, in its most recent evaluation under the school and district
19	accountability system, received a letter grade designation of "A", "B", or "C" or any
20	variation thereof and the school board that governs the local school system

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

1	previously	denied	or j	<u>placed</u>	conditi	ons	on	the	same	or	a	substantially	similar
2	proposal.												
3				;	* ;	k	*						

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)]

Edwards

HB No. 703

Abstract: Prohibits the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) from authorizing certain charter schools that the local school board previously denied or placed conditions on.

<u>Present law</u>, relative to charter schools, authorizes various groups to form a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of proposing a charter; provides for submission of the proposed charter to the local school board or to BESE.

<u>Present law</u> provides that each proposal for a Type 1 or Type 3 charter school shall first be made to the local school board with jurisdiction where the school is to be located by submitting a written proposal. If the local school board denies the proposal, or if conditions placed on the proposal by the local school board are not acceptable to the chartering group, then the proposal may be submitted to BESE.

<u>Present law</u> provides that BESE shall enter into any proposed charter that it determines is a valid, complete, financially well-structured, and educationally sound proposal that offers potential for fulfilling the purposes of <u>present law</u>. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but prohibits BESE from entering into a proposed charter if the proposed school would be located in a school system that, in its most recent evaluation under the accountability system, received a designation of "A", "B", or "C" and the school board that governs the local school system previously denied or placed conditions on the same or a substantially similar proposal.

(Amends R.S. 17:3981(2))