

SENATE SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS

**SB 61 By Senator Nevers**

**KEYWORD AND SUMMARY AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY. Establishes the Louisiana Public School Choice Act.  
(gov sig)

**SUMMARY OF HOUSE AMENDMENTS TO THE SENATE BILL**

1. Adds provision that a student's enrollment under proposed law be approved by majority vote of the local school board for the school.
2. Requires that a student comply with all requirements enumerated for eligibility to enroll in a system outside the geographical boundaries of the system where he resides.
3. Adds provision that if a student enrolls in a system outside the geographical boundaries of the system in which he resides, then the system in which he resides may charge a fee to the parents or guardian not to exceed the amount established by the minimum foundation formula as the local share of the per pupil amount in the system where he resides.

**DIGEST OF THE SENATE BILL AS RETURNED TO THE SENATE**

Nevers (SB 61)

Proposed law provides for public school choice as follows:

- (1) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, the parent or other legal guardian of any student may enroll their child in the public school of their choice, without regard to residence, school system geographic boundaries, or attendance zones, provided all of the following apply:
  - (a) The public school in which the student was most recently enrolled, or would otherwise attend, received a school performance letter grade of "D" or "F" for the most recent school year.
  - (b) The school in which the student seeks to enroll received a school performance letter grade of "A", "B", or "C" for the most recent school year, and has sufficient capacity at the appropriate grade level.
  - (c) The student's enrollment is approved by a vote of a majority of the members of the local school board for the school.
- (2) Prohibits enrollment of a student in the public school of choice if the enrollment violates a court order.
- (3) Provides that a school system is not required to provide transportation to any student enrolled in a public school that is located outside of the geographic boundaries of the school system in which he resides, if it results in additional cost to the school system.
- (4) Requires that a student enrolled under proposed law be counted by the school system in which he is enrolled for purposes of the Minimum Foundation Program and formula, and any other available state or federal funding for which the student is eligible.

- (5) Provides that if a student is enrolled in a public school outside the geographic boundaries of the system in which he resides, then the school system in which a student resides may charge the parent or legal guardian a fee not to exceed the amount established by the minimum foundation program formula for that year as the local share of the per pupil amount in the school system where the student resides.
- (6) Requires the governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school to work collaboratively and cooperatively to ensure compliance with proposed law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:4035 and 4035.1)

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