

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 409

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

SCHOOLS/BOARDS: Provides term limits for members of city, parish, and other local public school boards

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:52(A), relative to term limits for public school board  
3 members; to provide that a member of a city, parish, or other local public school  
4 board who will have served as a member of the board for more than two and one-half  
5 terms in three consecutive terms shall not be elected to the board for the succeeding  
6 term; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:52(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §52. Election and qualification of members; term of office; limits

10 A.(1) There shall be elected by the qualified voters of each parish police jury  
11 ward, or the equivalent thereof, of each parish of the state a member of the school  
12 board of the parish for each police juror in said ward, or the members of a parish  
13 school board shall be elected by the qualified voters in accordance with the school  
14 board reapportionment plan then in effect as authorized by law, or the members of  
15 a parish school board shall be elected in accordance with any special law applicable  
16 to the board, as the case may be. Members of parish school boards shall be elected  
17 at the congressional elections. Members elected in 1986 and thereafter shall serve  
18 four-year concurrent terms beginning January ~~+~~ first following their election. In  
19 order to implement the concurrent terms provided for herein, those members of the  
20 parish school boards who are elected in 1980 shall serve six-year terms beginning  
21 January first following their election, those members of the parish school boards who  
22 are elected in 1982 shall serve four-year terms beginning January first following

1 their election, and those members of the parish school boards who are elected in  
2 1984 shall serve two-year terms beginning January first following their election.

3 (2) For purposes of the election of school board members in the election  
4 years 1980, 1982, and 1984, the parish school boards of the several parishes, as  
5 occasion may arise on account of the increase in the membership by the creation of  
6 additional wards or the increase of membership for any single ward, shall by proper  
7 resolution maintain the three divisions of the membership of the school boards  
8 existing on July 28, 1948, as nearly equal as possible by allotting such new members  
9 to one of the three divisions, and when so allotted the term of office of such new  
10 member or members shall expire at the same time as the terms of the other members  
11 of the said division. Thereafter, the election of additional school board members  
12 shall be in accordance with the provisions herein made applicable to the election of  
13 school board members in the election year 1986.

14 (3) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a member of a city,  
15 parish, or other local public school board who at the end of his term of office on the  
16 board will have served as a member of the board for more than two and one-half  
17 terms in three consecutive terms, such service being during terms that begin on or  
18 after January 1, 2011, shall not be elected to the board for the succeeding term. This  
19 Paragraph shall be construed to provide a minimum term limitation for school board  
20 members and shall not supersede nor prevent the establishment of more stringent  
21 term limitations.

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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)]

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Harrison

HB No. 409

**Abstract:** Provides term limits for members of public school boards.

Present law provides for the election of parish school board members in accordance with school board reapportionment plans or any applicable special laws. Provides that members

shall be elected at the congressional elections and shall serve four-year concurrent terms. Further provides for the election of additional members under specified circumstances.

Proposed law retains present law except provides that a member of a city, parish, or other local public school board who at the end of his term of office will have served as a member for more than 2-1/2 terms in three consecutive terms, such service being during terms that begin on or after Jan. 1, 2011, shall not be elected to the board for the succeeding term. Provides that proposed law shall be construed to provide a minimum term limitation for school board members and shall not supersede nor prevent the establishment of more stringent term limitations.

(Amends R.S. 17:52(A))