

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 735

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

SCHOOLS/DISTRICTS: Provides relative to the parent petition process for removing a school from the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District and returning such school to the local school system

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:10.5(G)(1)(introductory paragraph) and (a), relative to  
3 schools operated by the Recovery School District; to provide relative to eligibility  
4 for removal from such district by petition; to provide relative to the requirements of  
5 such petitions; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:10.5(G)(1)(introductory paragraph) and (a) are hereby amended  
8 and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §10.5. School and district accountability; failing schools; transfer to Recovery  
10 School District; parent petitions

11 \* \* \*

12 G.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection C of this Section, a  
13 school that is directly operated by the Recovery School District ~~and that has not been~~  
14 ~~identified for conversion to a charter school pursuant to a charter contract between~~  
15 ~~the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and a nonprofit charter~~  
16 ~~organization~~ shall be removed from the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District  
17 and returned to the administration and management of the school system from which  
18 it was transferred if such return is approved by the State Board of Elementary and

1 Secondary Education and the respective local school board and the following  
2 conditions are met:

3 (a) Parents or legal guardians representing at least a majority of the students  
4 ~~who have been~~ enrolled in the school ~~for at least two years~~ sign a petition requesting  
5 that the school be removed from the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District and  
6 returned to the administration and management of the school system from which it  
7 was transferred.

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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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James

HB No. 735

**Abstract:** Amends petition procedures for removal of schools from the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District (RSD) and expands application of present law relative to such removal.

Present law provides that parents of students attending a school that is directly operated by the RSD, that has been rated as a "D" or "F" school for five years and that has not been identified for conversion to a charter school pursuant to a charter contract between the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and a nonprofit charter organization may submit a petition to BESE requesting that the school be returned to the local school system from which it was transferred. Proposed law removes provision limiting applicability of present law to schools that have not been identified for conversion to a charter school pursuant to present law.

Present law requires a petition signed by parents representing at least a majority of the students in the school in order for the school to be removed from the jurisdiction of the RSD. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law authorizes parents of a student who has been enrolled in the failing school for at least two years to sign the petition to remove the school from the RSD's jurisdiction. Proposed law authorizes any parent with a student enrolled in the school to sign the petition, regardless of the length of time the student has been enrolled in the school.

(Amends R.S. 17:10.5(G)(1)(intro. para.) and (a))