

Regular Session, 2011

SENATE BILL NO. 236

BY SENATOR WILLARD-LEWIS

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS. Requires BESE to adopt rules providing for the establishment of bus routes to RSD schools that enhance student safety and reduce student travel time on a school bus to and from school. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:158.8, relative to school transportation; to provide relative to the

3 establishment of school bus routes to schools in the Recovery School District; to

4 provide for the safety of school children transported to such schools; to provide for

5 the maximum travel time for students on a school bus traveling to and from a district

6 school; to provide for rules; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:158.8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 **§158.8. Recovery School District; transportation of students; bus routes;**

10 **maximum travel time on school buses; rules**

11 **The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adopt**

12 **and promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act**

13 **relative to the establishment of school bus routes for the transportation of**

14 **students to and from a school under the jurisdiction of the Recovery School**

15 **District. Such rules, at a minimum, shall require district schools to:**

16 **(1) Provide for the safe, efficient, and reasonable transportation of**

17 **students.**

1                   **(2) Provide for the establishment of bus routes that reduce student travel**  
2                   **time to the greatest extent possible and enhance student safety.**

3                   **(3) Provide for a maximum one-way travel time but in no case shall any**  
4                   **bus ride exceed ninety minutes.**

5                   **(4) Consider the following factors, which are in the best interest of the**  
6                   **student, when determining reasonable time:**

7                   **(a) Student age.**

8                   **(b) Distance between the student's home and the school in which he or**  
9                   **she is enrolled.**

10                  **(c) The opening and dismissal time of the school in which the student is**  
11                  **enrolled.**

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

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Sherri H. Breaux.

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#### DIGEST

Proposed law requires BESE to adopt and promulgate rules in accordance with the APA relative to the establishment of school bus routes for the transportation of students to and from a school under the jurisdiction of the Recovery School District. Provides for such rules, at a minimum, to require district schools to:

- (1) Provide for the safe, efficient, and reasonable transportation of students.
- (2) Provide for the establishment of bus routes that reduce student travel time to the greatest extent possible and enhance student safety.
- (3) Provide for a maximum one-way travel time but in no case shall any bus ride exceed 90 minutes.
- (4) Consider the following factors when determining reasonable time: student age, distance between the student's home and the school in which he or she is enrolled, and the opening and dismissal time of the school in which the student is enrolled.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:158.8)