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## DIGEST

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HB 215 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

White

**Abstract:** Changes how operational pay is calculated for school bus operators; requires payment for certain expenses.

## **Compensation for Driving Bus Routes**

Present law provides a schedule of compensation rates to be paid to school bus operators for the transportation of public school students. Provides for varying compensation based on distance traveled and length of bus. Specifies that the compensation shall be paid for a minimum of 180 days during a nine-month school year and for the number of days of actual operation of a summer semester.

Proposed law changes operational pay rate to a minimum of \$1.4683 per mile of paid mileage for school buses with capacities of 48 or fewer passengers and a minimum of \$1.756 per mile of paid mileage for school buses with capacities greater than 48 passengers.

Proposed law requires operators be paid for the number of days of actual operation, for not less than 180 days during the school year calendar, as adopted by the public school governing authority. Retains present law provision relative to operational payment during a summer semester.

Proposed law defines "paid mileage" as the distance of a bus route beginning when the first student is picked up and ending when the bus reaches the final student discharge destination or school on both morning and afternoon routes.

## **Compensation for Certain Expenses**

Proposed law requires a public school governing authority to establish supplemental payments for a school bus operator who is required to purchase certain equipment or supplies related to transporting students with disabilities or air conditioning equipment.

Proposed law provides implementation of proposed law shall begin with the 2022-2023 school year.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:497)