SCHOOLS/NONPUBLIC: Provides relative to minimum qualifications of teachers at certain nonpublic schools

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:11(A), relative to approval of nonpublic schools; to provide for teacher qualifications; to provide for the powers and duties of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:11(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§11. Approval of nonpublic schools by board

A.(1) The board shall adopt standards and guidelines which shall be applied in determining whether a nonpublic school applying for approval meets the requirements of a sustained curriculum or specialized course of study of quality at least equal to that prescribed for similar public schools.

(2) The board shall not adopt a standard or guideline that prohibits a nonpublic, parochial school or school board from hiring a teacher solely because the accreditation of the postsecondary education institution at which he completed his teacher education program is not a regional accreditation. Such a school or school board may hire a teacher who completed his teacher education program at a nationally accredited institution and who meets all other criteria provided in the standards and guidelines.

(3) The board shall appoint an advisory committee of nonpublic school representatives, who shall advise and counsel with the board relative to standards and
guidelines affecting these schools. After initial approval the board shall periodically
determine whether the nonpublic school is maintaining such quality and if not, shall
discontinue approval of the school.

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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)]

HB 455 Engrossed 2022 Regular Session Mincey

Abstract: Provides relative to the qualifications of teachers at certain nonpublic schools.

Present law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt
standards and guidelines for determining whether a nonpublic school that applies for
approval meets the requirements of a sustained curriculum or specialized course of study of
quality at least equal to that prescribed for similar public schools.

Proposed law prohibits BESE from adopting a standard or guideline that would prohibit a
nonpublic, parochial school or school board from hiring a teacher solely because the
accreditation of the postsecondary education institution at which he completed his teacher
education program is not a regional accreditation.

(Amends R.S. 17:11(A))