HOUSE BILL NO. 369

BY REPRESENTATIVES HARRIS, AMEDEE, BACALA, EDMONDS, EDMONSTON, AND GAROFALO

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:354 and 3996(B)(67) and (68), relative to education; to require public school governing authorities and public schools to post information on their websites relative to laws granting parents access to instructional materials and the Parents’ Bill of Rights for Public Schools; to require distribution of such information during the first week of school annually; to apply the law relative to parental access to instructional materials to charter schools; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1.  R.S. 17:354 and 3996(B)(67) and (68) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§354.  Parental access to instructional materials and the Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools; posting and distribution of laws and information

A.  Each public school governing authority and each public school shall post on its website information explaining the rights that parents have relative to accessing the instructional materials used in the education of their child and other rights pertaining to their child's education. The information shall be posted prominently in a location that is readily accessible from the main landing page of the website and shall include an easily understandable summary and the full text and legal citation of both of the following provisions:

(1)  R.S. 17:355, which provides relative to parental access to instructional materials.
(2) R.S. 17:406.9, which provides for the Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools.

B. The information also shall be distributed to parents during the first week of school annually via paperwork sent home or any electronic means through which communication is routinely delivered to parents.

§3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

(67) Parental access to instructional materials, R.S. 17:355.

(68) Posting and distribution of information relative to parental rights, R.S. 17:354.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ____________________

CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words underscored are additions.