

HOUSE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2025 Regular Session

Substitute for Original House Bill No. 237 by Representative Mack as proposed by the House Committee on Education

This document reflects the content of a substitute bill but is not in a bill form; page numbers in this document DO NOT correspond to page numbers in the substitute bill itself.

1 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:7(5)(b)(i), 416.1(B)(3)(b), 416.21, 1944.1(A) and
2 (D)(1)(introductory paragraph), 1948(A) and (B), to enact R.S. 17:7.2(A)(10),
3 8.1(A)(8), and 1944.1(D)(1)(d), and to repeal R.S. 17:1948(C)(9) and (G), relative
4 to the behavior of students with exceptionalities; to provide relative to the use of
5 seclusion and seclusion rooms; to provide relative to the use of physical restraint; to
6 provide for reporting and documentation; to require the installation of cameras in
7 special education classrooms; to require teacher preparation programs include
8 instruction on the use of seclusion and physical restraint of students with
9 exceptionalities; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 17:7(5)(b)(i), 416.1(B)(3)(b), 416.21, 1944.1(A) and
12 (D)(1)(introductory paragraph), 1948(A) and (B) and hereby amended and reenacted and
13 R.S. 17:7.2(A)(10), 8.1(A)(8), and 1944.1(D)(1)(d) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

14 §7. Duties, functions, and responsibilities of board

15 In addition to the authorities granted by R.S. 17:6 and any powers, duties, and
16 responsibilities vested by any other applicable laws, the board shall:

17 * * *

18 (5)

19 * * *

20 (b)(i) Prepare and adopt rules and guidelines for ~~the appropriate use of~~
21 ~~seclusion, physical restraint, and mechanical~~ providing safe learning environments
22 through training and monitoring the appropriate use of seclusion and physical
23 restraint of students with exceptionalities as defined in R.S. 17:1942, in accordance
24 with the Administrative Procedure Act.

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

* * *

§7.2. Approved teacher education programs

A. In carrying out its responsibility to prescribe the qualifications and provide for the certification of teachers under authority of R.S. 17:7(6), the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, subject to the constitutional power and authority of the Board of Regents, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, and the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, shall establish qualifications and requirements for the approval of teacher education programs from which graduates may be certified. The qualifications and requirements established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for an approved teacher education program shall include but not be limited to the following:

* * *

(10) That the program include completion of a crisis intervention training program, as provided in R.S. 17:416.21, and effective strategies for behavior management of students with disabilities, which may be incorporated into an existing course of study.

* * *

§8.1. Certification of teachers; parental notification

A. In carrying out its responsibility to prescribe the qualifications and provide for the certification of teachers under authority of R.S. 17:7(6), the qualifications and requirements established by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for certification of any applicant who completes an approved teacher education program in Louisiana shall include but not be limited to the following:

* * *

(8) That an applicant complete a crisis intervention training program created or approved by the state Department of Education.

* * *

§416.1. Discipline of students; additional disciplinary authority

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

1 * * *

2 B.

3 * * *

4 (3) Corporal punishment does not include:

5 * * *

6 (b) The use of seclusion and physical restraint as provided in R.S. 17:416.21.

7 * * *

8 §416.21. Behavior of students with exceptionalities; use of seclusion and physical
9 restraint

10 A. As used in this Section:

11 (1)(a) "Crisis intervention" means the implementation of an action plan for
12 school personnel to implement when a student exhibits disruptive behaviors that
13 prevent him from participating in classroom or daily activities. Crisis intervention
14 may include the following:

15 (i) The use of positive behavioral supports and sensory rooms or other
16 calming spaces intentionally designed to help comfort and stabilize a student so that
17 he may return to the classroom or daily activities.

18 (ii) In extraordinary circumstances, the use of seclusion and physical
19 restraint as a means to safely de-escalate a situation in which a student poses a risk
20 of imminent risk of harm to self or others.

21 (b) Information about a school's use of crisis intervention, including the
22 proper use of seclusion and physical restraint, shall be included in a school's student
23 handbook and made available to the parent and legal guardian of each student with
24 an Individualized Education Program or Behavioral Intervention Plan.

25 ~~(1)~~ (2) "Imminent risk of harm" means an immediate and impending threat
26 of a person causing substantial physical injury to self or others.

27 ~~(2)(a)~~ (3)(a) "Mechanical restraint" means the application of any device or
28 object used to limit a person's movement.

29 (b) Mechanical restraint does not include:

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

1 (i) A protective or stabilizing device used in strict accordance with the
 2 manufacturer's instructions for proper use and which is used in compliance with
 3 orders issued by an appropriately licensed health care provider.

4 (ii) Any device used by a duly licensed law enforcement officer in the
 5 execution of his official duties.

6 ~~(3)(a)~~ (4)(a) "Physical restraint" means ~~bodily force used to limit a person's~~
 7 ~~movement.~~ the use of manual restraint techniques that involve physical force applied
 8 to restrict the movement of all or part of a person's body.

9 (b) Physical restraint does not include:

10 (i) Consensual, solicited, or unintentional contact.

11 (ii) Momentary blocking of a student's action if the student's action is likely
 12 to result in harm to the student or any other person.

13 (iii) A school employee holding a student for less than three consecutive
 14 minutes within any given hour for the protection of the student or others.

15 ~~(iii) (iv) Holding of a student, by one school employee,~~ A school employee
 16 holding a student for the purpose of calming or comforting the student, provided the
 17 student's freedom of movement or normal access to his or her body is not restricted.

18 ~~(iv) (v)~~ (v) Minimal physical contact for the purpose of safely escorting a
 19 student from one area to another.

20 ~~(v) (vi)~~ (vi) Minimal physical contact for the purpose of assisting the student in
 21 completing a task or response.

22 ~~(4) (5)~~ (5) "Positive ~~behavior~~ behavioral interventions and support" means a
 23 systematic approach to embed evidence-based practices and data-driven decision
 24 making when addressing student behavior in order to improve school climate and
 25 culture.

26 ~~(5) (6)~~ (6) "School employee" means a teacher, paraprofessional, administrator,
 27 support staff member, or a provider of related services.

28 (7) "School health designee" means a school employee designated to assess
 29 the use of seclusion and physical restraint in the event that a school nurse is not
 30 present on a school campus at the time such measure is used.

1 ~~(6)~~ (8) "Seclusion" means a procedure that isolates and confines a student
 2 in a designated separate room or area until he ~~or she~~ is no longer an ~~immediate~~
 3 ~~danger~~ imminent risk of harm to self or others.

4 ~~(7)~~ (9) "Seclusion room" means a room or other confined area, used on an
 5 individual basis, in which a student is removed from the regular classroom setting
 6 for a limited time to allow the student the opportunity to regain control in a ~~private~~
 7 safe, secure, and supervised setting and from which the student is involuntarily
 8 prevented from leaving until he is no longer at risk of imminent harm to self or
 9 others. A seclusion room shall:

10 (a) Be free of any object that poses a danger to the student placed in the
 11 room.

12 (b) Have an observation window and be of a size that is appropriate for the
 13 student's size, behavior, and chronological and developmental age.

14 (c) Have a ceiling height and heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting
 15 systems comparable to operating classrooms in the school.

16 (10) "Sensory room" means a room or space that is used for the monitored
 17 separation of a student in an unlocked setting in which school personnel may use
 18 positive behavioral interventions and support to help to calm or stabilize a student's
 19 disruptive behavior. A sensory room may also be referred to as a "calming room",
 20 "calming space", "comfort room", "comfort space", "sensory space", "timeout room",
 21 or "timeout space". The appropriate use of sensory rooms shall not be considered
 22 seclusion, which shall only be used for the limited purpose of responding to a student
 23 posing an imminent risk of harm to self or others.

24 ~~(8)~~ (11) "Written guidelines and procedures" means the written guidelines
 25 and procedures adopted by a ~~school's~~ public school governing authority regarding
 26 appropriate responses to student behavior that may require immediate intervention.

27 B.(1) Seclusion shall be used only:

28 (a) For student behaviors that involve an imminent risk of harm to self or
 29 others.

1 (b) As a last resort when de-escalation and other positive behavioral
 2 interventions and support attempts have failed and the student continues to pose an
 3 imminent ~~threat~~ risk of harm to self or others.

4 (2) Seclusion shall not be used as a routine school safety, discipline, or
 5 intervention measure or to address behaviors such as general noncompliance, self-
 6 stimulation, and academic refusal, and other behaviors that, while disruptive to a
 7 classroom setting or other daily school activities, do not present an imminent risk of
 8 harm to self or others. ~~Such~~ School employees shall respond to such behaviors ~~shall~~
 9 ~~be responded to~~ with less stringent and less restrictive techniques, such as those
 10 included in a school's or student's crisis intervention plan or a student's
 11 Individualized Educational Plan or Behavioral Intervention Plan.

12 (3)(a) A seclusion room shall be used only as a last resort if and when less
 13 restrictive crisis intervention measures, such as positive behavioral supports,
 14 constructive and non-physical de-escalation, and restructuring of a student's
 15 environment, have failed to stop a student's actions that pose an imminent risk of
 16 harm to self or others.

17 (b) A student shall be placed in a seclusion room only by a school employee
 18 who uses accepted methods of escorting a student to a seclusion room, placing a
 19 student in a seclusion room, and supervising a student while he ~~or she~~ is in the
 20 seclusion room.

21 (c) Only one student may be placed in a seclusion room at any given time,
 22 and the school employee supervising the student must be able to see and hear the
 23 student the entire time the student is placed in the seclusion room.

24 ~~(4) A seclusion room shall:~~

25 ~~(a) Be free of any object that poses a danger to the student placed in the~~
 26 ~~room.~~

27 ~~(b) Have an observation window and be of a size that is appropriate for the~~
 28 ~~student's size, behavior, and chronological and developmental age.~~

29 ~~(c) Have a ceiling height and heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting~~
 30 ~~systems comparable to operating classrooms in the school.~~

1 C.(1) Physical restraint shall be used only:

2 (a) When a student's behavior presents a threat of imminent risk of harm to
3 self or others and only as a last resort to protect the safety of self and others.

4 (b) To the degree necessary to stop dangerous behavior.

5 (c) In a manner that causes no physical injury to the student, results in the
6 least possible discomfort, and does not interfere in any way with a student's
7 breathing or ability to communicate with others.

8 (d) By trained personnel, except in emergency situations in which there is
9 not sufficient time to have trained personnel respond. Minimum training
10 requirements shall be specified in rules promulgated by the State Board of
11 Elementary and Secondary Education.

12 (2) ~~No student shall be subjected to any~~ The following practices are
13 prohibited in any public school:

14 (a) Any form of mechanical restraint.

15 ~~(3) No student shall be physically restrained~~

16 (b) Physical restraint in a manner that places excessive pressure on ~~the~~ a
17 student's chest or back or that causes asphyxia.

18 ~~(4) A student shall be physically restrained only~~

19 (c) Physical restraint in a manner that is ~~directly proportionate~~
20 disproportionate to the circumstances and to ~~the~~ a student's size, age, and severity of
21 behavior.

22 D. Seclusion and physical restraint shall not be used as a form of discipline
23 or punishment, as a threat to control, bully, or obtain behavioral compliance, or for
24 the convenience of school personnel.

25 E. ~~No student shall be subjected to~~ No school employee shall subject a
26 student to unreasonable, unsafe, or unwarranted use of seclusion or physical restraint.

27 F. ~~A student shall not be placed in seclusion or physically restrained if he or~~
28 ~~she~~ (1) No school employee shall seclude or physically restrain a student who is
29 known to have any medical or psychological condition that precludes such action,
30 as certified by a licensed ~~health care~~ pediatrician, neurologist, or mental health

1 provider in a written statement provided to the school in which the student is
2 enrolled.

3 (2) Each principal or his designee shall notify each parent or legal guardian
4 of a student enrolled at the school with an Individualized Education Plan of the
5 prohibition of the use of seclusion and physical restraint if the student has a
6 condition as provided in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. Such notification shall be
7 made annually and be incorporated into the student's Individualized Education Plan
8 meeting.

9 G. A school employee shall continuously monitor a student who has been
10 placed in seclusion or has been is secluded or physically restrained shall be
11 monitored continuously for the duration of such seclusion or restraint. Such
12 monitoring shall be documented at least every fifteen minutes and adjustments made
13 accordingly, based upon observations of the student's behavior.

14 H. A student shall be removed from seclusion or released school employee
15 shall release a student from seclusion and physical restraint as soon as the reasons
16 for justifying such action have subsided.

17 I.(1) ~~The parent or other legal guardian of a student who has been placed in~~
18 ~~seclusion or physically restrained shall be notified as soon as possible. The student's~~
19 ~~parent or other legal guardian shall also be notified in writing, within twenty-four~~
20 ~~hours, of each incident of seclusion or physical restraint. Such notice shall include~~
21 ~~the reason for such seclusion or physical restraint, the procedures used, the length of~~
22 ~~time of the student's seclusion or physical restraint, and the names and titles of any~~
23 ~~school employee involved.~~

24 ~~(2) The director or supervisor of special education shall be notified any time~~
25 ~~a student is placed in seclusion or is physically restrained. Upon a student's release~~
26 ~~from seclusion or physical restraint:~~

27 (1) The school employee who secluded or physically restrained the student
28 or a school administrator shall notify the parent or legal guardian of the student via
29 a phone call as soon as is practicable.

1 (2) A school nurse or school health designee shall visit the student as soon
2 as possible, but no later than the end of the same school day, to look for and
3 document any signs of injury or distress.

4 ~~J. A school employee who has placed a student in seclusion or who has~~
5 ~~physically restrained a student shall document and report each incident in accordance~~
6 ~~with the policies adopted by the school's governing authority. Such report shall be~~
7 ~~submitted to the school principal not later than the school day immediately following~~
8 ~~the day on which the student was placed in seclusion or physically restrained and a~~
9 ~~copy shall be provided to the student's parent or legal guardian. A school employee~~
10 who secluded or physically restrained a student shall document and report the
11 incident in accordance with the policies adopted by the public school governing
12 authority. The employee shall submit such report to the school principal by the end
13 of the school day. The principal or his designee shall submit the report to the parent
14 by the end of the following school day. At a minimum, the incident report shall
15 include the following:

16 (1) The name, age, grade, gender, race, and disability of the student secluded
17 or restrained.

18 (2) The date, time, location, and duration of the seclusion or physical
19 restraint.

20 (3) The name and title of each school employee involved and who was a
21 witness.

22 (4) A description of the events requiring the use of seclusion or physical
23 restraint, including a description of the procedures and types of restraint used, any
24 actions taken in an attempt to de-escalate the situation, and the student's behavior
25 that suggest the student posed an imminent risk of harm to self or others.

26 (5) A description of any student injuries, visible marks, or medical
27 emergencies that occurred during or after the seclusion or physical restraint.

28 (6) A description of the actions taken immediately following the student's
29 release from seclusion or physical restraint, including actions to notify the student's
30 parent or legal guardian.

1 (7) A description of the student's actions after his release.

2 (8) Any other observations otherwise required or requested in the report.

3 ~~K. If a student is involved in five incidents in a single school year involving~~
4 ~~the use of physical restraint or seclusion, the student's Individualized Education~~
5 ~~Program team shall review and revise the student's behavior intervention plan to~~
6 ~~include any appropriate and necessary behavioral supports. Thereafter, if the~~
7 ~~student's challenging behavior continues or escalates requiring repeated use of~~
8 ~~seclusion or physical restraint practices, the special education director or his~~
9 ~~designee shall review the student's plans at least once every three weeks.~~

10 (1) A school employee shall immediately notify the school principal and the
11 director or supervisor of special education any time a student is secluded or
12 physically restrained.

13 (2) A school principal or his designee and the director or supervisor of
14 special education shall review video and audio footage, if available, to ensure
15 policies and proper techniques were followed during the incident.

16 L. If a student is involved in three incidents in a school year involving the
17 use of seclusion or physical restraint as a result of posing an imminent risk of harm
18 to self or others, his Individualized Education Program team shall review and revise
19 the student's Behavior Intervention Plan, including any crisis intervention plans, to
20 include any appropriate and necessary behavioral supports. Thereafter, if the
21 student's challenging behavior continues or escalates, requiring repeated use of
22 seclusion or physical restraint, the director or supervisor of special education or his
23 designee shall review the student's plans at least once every three weeks.

24 ~~M.(1) The~~ Each public school ~~governing authority of each public elementary~~
25 ~~and secondary school~~ shall adopt written guidelines and procedures regarding:

26 ~~(a) Reporting requirements and follow-up procedures.~~ Proper use of crisis
27 intervention plans, including the use of positive behavioral interventions and support,
28 sensory rooms, seclusion, and physical restraint, and how these strategies differ.

1 ~~(b) Notification requirements for school officials and a student's parent or~~
2 ~~other legal guardian.~~ All seclusion and physical restraint safety, reporting, and
3 notification requirements, including any follow-up procedures.

4 (c) An explanation of the methods of physical restraint and the school
5 employee training requirements relative to the use of restraint.

6 ~~(d) An explanation of how school employees may utilize and be trained in~~
7 a crisis intervention training program.

8 (2)(a) These guidelines and procedures shall be provided to the state
9 Department of Education, all school employees, and every parent or legal guardian
10 of a student with an exceptionality. ~~The guidelines and procedures shall also be~~
11 ~~posted at each school and on each school system's website.~~

12 ~~(b) The provisions of Subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph shall not be~~
13 ~~applicable to the parent of a student who has been deemed to be gifted or talented~~
14 ~~unless the student has been identified as also having a disability.~~ At the beginning
15 of each school year, each public school governing authority shall post on its website
16 the guidelines and procedures adopted in accordance with the provisions of this
17 Subsection.

18 (3) Each public school governing authority shall annually submit prior to the
19 beginning of each school year its guidelines and procedures adopted in accordance
20 with the provisions of this Subsection to its special education advisory council
21 provided for in R.S. 17:1944.1.

22 (4) The state department shall maintain on its website, and annually
23 distribute to public school governing authorities, updated guidance for recommended
24 best practices relative to the use of seclusion and physical restraint for students with
25 exceptionalities.

26 N.(1) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall adopt
27 rules establishing guidelines and procedures for public school systems to follow
28 regarding the reporting of incidents of seclusion and physical restraint, including
29 specific data elements to be included in such reporting.

1 (2) ~~The Each public school~~ governing ~~authority of each public elementary~~
 2 ~~and secondary school,~~ authority, in accordance with state board policy, shall report
 3 all instances where seclusion or physical restraint is used to address student behavior
 4 to the state Department of Education.

5 (3)(a) The state Department of Education shall maintain a database of all
 6 reported incidents of seclusion and physical restraint of students with
 7 exceptionalities and shall disaggregate the data for analysis by school; student age,
 8 race, ethnicity, and gender; student disability, where applicable; and any involved
 9 school employees.

10 (b)(i) Based upon the data collected, the state Department of Education shall
 11 annually compile a comprehensive report regarding the use of seclusion and physical
 12 restraint of students with exceptionalities, which shall at a minimum include the
 13 following:

14 (aa) The number of incidents of physical restraint disaggregated by school
 15 system; student age, race, ethnicity, gender, and student disability classification.

16 (bb) The number of incidents of seclusion disaggregated by school system;
 17 student age, race, ethnicity, gender, and student disability classification.

18 (cc) A list of the school systems and charter schools that have complied with
 19 the reporting requirements pursuant to Paragraph (2) of this Subsection.

20 (ii) The state Department of Education shall post the annual report on its
 21 website and submit a written copy to the Senate and House committees on education
 22 and the ~~Advisory Council on Student Behavior and Discipline established pursuant~~
 23 ~~to R.S. 17:253~~ Special Education Advisory Panel.

24 O.(1) The department may develop a crisis intervention training program that
 25 may be used by each public school governing authority. If the department develops
 26 such a program, at a minimum, it shall cover the following:

27 (a) Teach evidence-based techniques that are shown to be effective in the
 28 prevention and safe use of seclusion and physical restraint.

1 §1944.1. Local special education advisory councils; creation; purpose

2 A. ~~Not later than January 1, 2020, each~~ Each local public school
3 superintendent and the administrative head of each charter school or other public
4 school shall create a special education advisory council to provide advice and
5 feedback regarding special education policies, procedures, and resources. The
6 council shall also engage in outreach activities to the community at large to increase
7 the level of knowledge, support, and collaboration with respect to special education.

8 * * *

9 D.(1) Each local public school superintendent and the administrative head
10 of each charter school shall provide for an annual report to ~~be made to~~ its special
11 education advisory council, which shall contain, ~~at minimum,~~ including but not
12 limited to the following information as it pertains to his respective system or school,
13 information, as applicable:

14 * * *

15 (d) The number of designated seclusion rooms as defined by R.S. 17:416.21.

16 * * *

17 §1948. Cameras in certain classrooms; definitions; required policies;
18 confidentiality; authorization of funding

19 A.(1) ~~The~~ Each public school governing authority shall adopt policies
20 relative to the installation and operation of cameras that record both video and audio
21 in a classroom. ~~The policies shall be adopted not later than December 31, 2022, or~~
22 ~~within sixty days of the receipt of funding for the installation of cameras, whichever~~
23 ~~occurs first.~~ Each public school governing authority shall install a camera in each
24 classroom.

25 (2) ~~Not later than January 15, 2023, each~~ Each governing authority shall
26 submit a copy of the policies adopted pursuant to this Section to the state Department
27 of Education. Within ten days of any revision of the policies, each governing
28 authority shall submit a copy of the policies to the department.

1 B. For purposes of this Section, "classroom" shall mean a self-contained
2 classroom or other special education setting in which a majority of students in
3 regular attendance are provided special education and related services and are
4 assigned to one or more self-contained classrooms or other special education settings
5 for at least fifty percent of the instructional day ~~and for which a parent or legal~~
6 ~~guardian has requested a camera to be installed.~~ "Classroom" shall not mean special
7 education classrooms and other special education settings where the only students
8 with exceptionalities receiving special education and related services are those who
9 have been deemed to be gifted or talented and have not been identified as also having
10 a disability.

11 * * *

12 Section 2. R.S. 17:1948(C)(9) and (G) are hereby repealed in their entirety.

13 Section 3. Following the passage of this Act, the state Department of Education shall
14 update the Procedural Safeguards Handbook to reflect the provisions of this Act, including
15 R.S. 17:416.21(F) as amended by this Act, prior to the beginning of the 2025-2026 school
16 year.

17 Section 4. Each public school governing authority shall initially submit its guidelines
18 and procedures as provided in R.S. 17:416.21(M)(3) as amended by this Act by May 31,
19 2026. Thereafter, submission is required prior to the beginning of each subsequent school
20 year.

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 Draft 2025 Regular Session

Abstract: Provides relative to the use of physical restraint as a response to the behavior of a student with exceptionalities.

Present law (R.S. 17:416.21) provides relative to the use of seclusion and physical restraint in response to the behavior of students with exceptionalities.

Present law prohibits mechanical restraint on students with exceptionalities. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law defines "physical restraint". Proposed law changes definition from bodily force used to limit a person's movement to the use of manual restraint techniques that involve physical force applied to restrict the movement of all or part of a person's body.

Proposed law further adds the following relative to physical restraint:

- (1) That physical restraint does not mean a school employee holding a student for less than 3 minutes within an hour for the protection of the student or others.
- (2) Requires physical restraint to only be used by trained personnel, except in emergency situations in which there is not sufficient time to have trained personnel respond.

Proposed law requires that a school nurse or school health designee visit a student who was secluded or physically restrained as soon as possible after such restraint has occurred, but no later than the end of the same school day, to look for and document any signs of injury or distress.

Present law, relative to parental notification of the use of seclusion or physical restraint, requires notification as soon as possible. Proposed law instead requires such notification on the same day which the seclusion or physical restraint was used.

Present law requires a student who was secluded or physically restrained to be continuously monitored and requires documentation of such monitoring every 15 minutes. Proposed law, instead, requires the student to be monitored while seclusion or physical restraint is used and removes the time component.

Present law provides that if a student is involved in a certain number of incidents involving seclusion or physical restraint in a school year, the student's Individualized Education Plan team is required to review and revise the student's intervention plan. Proposed law retains present law but reduces incident number threshold from 5 to 3.

Present law requires each public school governing authority to adopt written guidelines and procedures regarding seclusion and physical restraint.

Present law requires each public school governing authority to provide such guidelines and procedures to the state Dept. of Education (DOE), all school employees, and every parent or legal guardian of a student with an exceptionality. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires each public school governing authority to annually submit such guidelines and procedures to its special education advisory council as provided for in present law (R.S. 17:1944.1).

Present law requires each public school governing authority to report all instances where seclusion or physical restraint is used to address student behavior to DOE. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law authorizes DOE to develop a crisis intervention training program.

Proposed law defines "crisis intervention", "school health designee", and "sensory room".

Present law (R.S. 17:1948) requires each public school governing authority to install cameras in certain classrooms at the request of a parent. Proposed law requires such installation regardless of a parental request.

Present law (R.S. 17:7) provides for duties and responsibilities of BESE. Requires BESE to prepare and adopt rules and guidelines for the appropriate use of seclusion, physical restraint, and mechanical restraint of students with exceptionalities as defined in present law (R.S. 17:1942), in accordance with present law (Administrative Procedure Act (APA)). Proposed law instead requires BESE to prepare and adopt rules and guidelines for providing

safe learning environments through training and monitoring of the appropriate use of seclusion and physical restraint students with exceptionalities as defined in present law (R.S. 17:1942), in accordance with the APA.

Proposed law (R.S. 17:7.2) requires teacher preparation programs to include completion of a crisis intervention training program and authorizes such instruction to be incorporated into an existing course of study.

Present law (R.S. 17:8.1) provides for the certification of teachers. Proposed law requires that an applicant complete a crisis intervention training program created or approved by DOE.

(Amends R.S. 17:7(5)(b)(i), 416.1(B)(3)(b), 416.21, 1944.1(A) and (D)(1)(introductory paragraph), 1948(A) and (B); Adds R.S. 17:7.2(A)(10), 8.1(A)(8), and 1944.1(D)(1)(d); Repeals R.S. 17:1948(C)(9) and (G))