

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 132

BY SENATOR KLEINPETER

SCHOOLS. Provides that each public school board is to install exterior master key boxes to allow for rapid entry, response, and rescue by law enforcement and first responders during a school crisis. (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:416.16.1(A)(1), (2), and (4), and (E) and to enact R.S.
3 17:416.16.1(F), relative to public school safety; to require exterior master key boxes
4 to be installed in public schools under certain circumstances; to provide for
5 installation locations; to require that certain contents be placed in the exterior master
6 key boxes; to provide for definitions; to provide for standards; and to provide for
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:416.16.1(A)(1), (2), and (4), and (E) are hereby amended and
10 reenacted and R.S. 17:416.16.1(F) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §416.16.1. School mapping data; **exterior master key box**

12 A.(1) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state
13 Department of Education shall coordinate with the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools
14 to provide the mapping data of all public schools in order to provide law enforcement
15 **officials and other first responders with** the appropriate tools needed for school
16 safety.

17 (2) Upon preparing a school crisis management and response plan in

1 accordance with R.S. 17:416.16 each city, parish, or other local public school system
 2 governing authority or a vendor shall submit a copy of the most recent blueprints and
 3 school mapping data of each school building and facility in the school system **and**
 4 **the location of the exterior master key box**, to each local law enforcement agency
 5 with jurisdiction over any portion of the school governing authority, each local and
 6 state public safety and emergency preparedness office, the Louisiana Center for Safe
 7 Schools, and to the school's office for use in response to emergencies.

8 * * *

9 (4) For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the
 10 following meanings:

11 **(a) "Exterior master key box" means a secure, wall-mounted, anti-theft**
 12 **resistant container that is installed outside a school's building to provide first**
 13 **responders with immediate access to the school during a school crisis to allow**
 14 **for rapid response and rescue.**

15 ~~(a)~~**(b)** "First responders" means local, state, and federal law enforcement
 16 agencies, fire, public safety, and emergency preparedness officials.

17 ~~(b)~~**(c)** "School mapping data" means information provided in an electronic
 18 or digital format to assist first responders in responding to emergencies at public
 19 schools.

20 * * *

21 **E. No later than January 1, 2028, each public city, parish, or other local**
 22 **school board, from funds appropriated by the legislature to the Louisiana**
 23 **Center for Safe Schools, shall install at least one exterior master key box on the**
 24 **campus of each public school in the school district.**

25 **(1) Each exterior master key box is to be installed at a location on the**
 26 **school's campus for permitting first responders to gain expedited access to the**
 27 **school building.**

28 **(2) The precise location of the exterior master key box shall be**
 29 **determined by the school board in collaboration with local law enforcement**

1 **agencies for the jurisdiction in which the school building is located.**

2 **(3) The exterior master key box shall contain all of the following:**

3 **(a) Copies of building keys or key cards to obtain entry to all doors on**
 4 **the school campus.**

5 **(b) Printed maps with school mapping data that is required by this**
 6 **Section.**

7 **(4) Each master key box installed at a school shall meet the basic**
 8 **commercial applications standard for anti-theft alarms and devices as**
 9 **prescribed under Underwriters Laboratories Standard 1037.**

10 ~~E.F.~~ Blueprints and school mapping data of public school building or facility
 11 shall not be subject to the Public Records Law.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB 132 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Kleinpeter

Present law provides for the "Protect Our Children and Response Act", related to school safety and crisis management and requires that internal mapping (floor plans) of traditional public schools and public charter schools be made available to first responders during a school lock down. Present law defines "first responders" as local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, fire, public safety, and emergency preparedness officials.

Present law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Dept. of Education to coordinate with the La. Center for Safe Schools to gather and store the mapping data that is to be used by first responders.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that an exterior master key box is to be installed at each traditional public school and public charter school from funds appropriated by the legislature to the La. Center for Safe Schools for such purposes. Proposed law defines "exterior master key box" as a secure, wall-mounted, anti-theft resistant container that is installed outside a building.

Proposed law provides that, no later than Jan. 1, 2028, each traditional public school and public charter school is to install at least one exterior master key box on the school campus. The exterior master key box is to contain printed copies of the school maps and exterior keys to each door on the school campus.

Proposed law provides that each exterior master key box is to be installed at a location on the school's campus that is determined by the school, in collaboration with local law enforcement agencies.

Proposed law provides that each master key box installed by the school board at a school is to meet the basic commercial applications standard for anti-theft alarms and devices.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:416.16.1(A), (1), (2), and (4), and (E); adds R.S. 17:416.16.1(F))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Makes technical changes.
2. Changes the compliance date from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2028.
3. Changes the agency that appropriated funds will be sent to from BESE to the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools.