

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 661

BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT

ETHICS/NEPOTISM: Provides an exception for hiring the immediate family member of a school board member or superintendent for certain positions

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(vii), relative to nepotism; to provide an exception for a local
3 school board to hire an immediate family member of a board member or the
4 superintendent as a paraprofessional, custodian, or cafeteria worker under certain
5 circumstances; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(vii) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1119. Nepotism

9 * * *

10 B.

11 * * *

12 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of Paragraph (1) of this Subsection:

13 (a)

14 * * *

15 (vii) Any local school board may employ an immediate family member of
16 any board member or of the superintendent as a paraprofessional, custodian, or
17 cafeteria worker provided the family member meets the required criteria of the
18 position. Any school board member or superintendent whose immediate family
19 member is employed by the school board shall recuse himself from any decision
20 involving the promotion or assignment of such employee.

21 * * *

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 661 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Fontenot

Abstract: Provides an exception to the nepotism law for a local school board to hire an immediate family member of a board member or the superintendent as a paraprofessional, custodian, or cafeteria worker under certain circumstances.

Present law generally provides that no member of the immediate family of a member of a governing authority or the chief executive of a governmental entity shall be employed by the governmental entity. Present law provides for exceptions.

Proposed law retains present law and provides additional exceptions for a school board to hire an immediate family member of a school board member or superintendent as a paraprofessional, custodian, or cafeteria worker provided the family member meets the criteria for such position and the school board member or superintendent recuse himself from any decision involving the promotion or assignment of such employee.

(Adds R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(vii))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add an exception for cafeteria workers.