

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 476

BY REPRESENTATIVE DICKERSON

SCHOOLS: Requires each public secondary school to display flyers about the Safe Haven Law in restrooms

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:17.9 and 3996(B)(92), relative to public health information; to provide
3 relative to information posted in public middle and high schools; to provide for
4 requirements of the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services and the
5 state Department of Education; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17.9 and 3996(B)(92) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §17.9. Safe Haven Law information; posting in schools

9 A. Each public school with students in any grade seven through twelve shall
10 display flyers designed by the Louisiana Department of Children and Family
11 Services, hereafter referred to as the "department", in the prescribed locations and
12 in the manner provided for in this Section.

13 B. The content of each flyer, at a minimum, shall be as follows:

14 (1) A brief, age-appropriate heading that quickly communicates the nature
15 of the flyer.

16 (2) A summary of the Save Haven Law (Children's Code Article 1149 et
17 seq.), including but not limited to a summary of the ways a child can be legally
18 surrendered.

19 (3) The URL to the section on the department's website about the Safe Haven
20 Law and a QR code that goes to such section.

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 476 Engrossed

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Dickerson

Abstract: Requires each public middle and high school to display a flyer about the Safe Haven Law in every bathroom stall in the school.

Present law (Ch. C. Art. 1149 et seq.) provides for the Safe Haven Law, provisions authorizing the relinquishment of infants up to 60 days old to certain facilities.

Proposed law requires each public middle school and high school, including charter schools, to display a flyer on the inside of every bathroom stall door with information about the Safe Haven Law. Provides an exception that, if students in grade six and below use a bathroom in the normal course of a school day, a school is not required to display the flyer in such a bathroom, but is authorized to inform the older students of the content via other approaches.

Proposed law requires the La. Dept. of Children and Family Services to design the flyer and make it available to download on its website.

Proposed law requires the state Dept. of Education to provide information to public school governing authorities about how to obtain the flyer.

(Adds R.S. 17:17.9 and 3996(B)(92))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Add exception that a school is not required to display the flyer in specific bathrooms if students in grade 6 and below frequent such bathrooms, but is authorized to determine other approaches to inform students in grades 7 and above about the content of the flyer.
2. Make technical changes.