

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 682

BY REPRESENTATIVE DICKERSON

VETERANS: Authorizes the use of veterans as resource officers at schools

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:416.19(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 17:3996(B)(24), relative to
3 school resource officers; to provide for the use of veterans as school resource
4 officers; to provide for the definition of veteran; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:416.19(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.
7 17:3996(B)(24) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §416.19. School resource officers

9 * * *

10 B.(1)(a) A "school resource officer" ~~shall be~~ means a peace officer as
11 defined in R.S. 40:2402 or a veteran as defined in R.S. 13:5364, who meets all of the
12 following criteria:

- 13 (i) He was honorably discharged from the Armed Forces.
- 14 (ii) He successfully completed the requisite background check.
- 15 (iii) He meets all minimum training requirements established by the Council
16 on Peace Officer Standards and Training or an equivalent program approved by the
17 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, and mandatory reporter
18 training provided for in Children's Code Article 603.1.
- 19 (iv) He is employed or contracted by a city, parish, or other local public
20 school system, a nonpublic school, or a law enforcement agency.

Proposed law retains present law and expands the definition of "school resource officer" to include a veteran, as defined by present law (R.S. 13:5364).

Proposed law requires such a veteran to meet certain criteria, including the following:

- (1) An honorable discharge.
- (2) A successful background check.
- (3) Completion of minimum training by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training or an equivalent program approved by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education.

(Amends R.S. 17:416.19(B)(1); Adds R.S. 17:3996(B)(24))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Add certain criteria required for a veteran to be qualified to serve as a school resource officer.
2. Include charter schools.