
DIGEST

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HB 648 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Brass

Abstract: Provides for the participation of a parent or legal guardian of a child under the age of five or a provider of early childhood supports or services who is a member of a public body and further provides for a public body that primarily focuses on issues realty to families with children under the age of five years old.

Present law (R.S. 42:17.2) provides for the circumstances in which a public body may conduct and its members may attend and participate in a meeting via electronic means. Provides for notice of such meetings. Provides for the requirements for each meeting conducted pursuant to present law. Provides for definitions. Provides that public bodies that conduct meetings pursuant to present law shall limit the number of such meetings unless the public body is strictly advisory or primarily focuses on issues dealing with disabilities or assisting military families. Provides that present law does not apply to certain public bodies.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that if a public body primarily focuses on issues dealing with families with children under the age of five years old the public body is not restricted on the number of meetings conducted pursuant to present law.

Present law (R.S. 42:17.2.1) provides that if a public body has a member who has a disability recognized by the ADA the member shall be allowed to participate and vote in a meeting via electronic means. Requires a public body to adopt rules, regulations, and procedures to facilitate the requirements of present law. Provides that present law shall not apply to members of the legislature or any parish board of election supervisors.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that a member of a public body who is a parent or legal guardian of a child under the age of five years old or a provider of early childhood supports or services may participate and vote in a meeting via electronic means as provided in present law.

(Amends R.S. 42:17.2(F)(2), and 17.2.1(A))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.

2. Remove proposed law provisions that would allow a parent or a legal guardian of a child under the age of 5 or a provider of early childhood supports or services to participate in a meeting of a public body via teleconference, video conference, or other alternative methods.