The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

DIGEST

SB 381 Original 2018 Regular Session Carter

Present law (R.S.17:10.7) provided for the transfer of failing schools in a school district deemed by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to be in academic crisis to the Recovery School District (RSD).

Present law (R.S. 17:10.7.1) requires the RSD to return these schools to the transferring school system not later than July 1, 2019. Further provides time lines, procedures, and conditions for the schools' return to the transferring local school system.

Present law requires that all schools in the system must participate in a parish-wide student enrollment system for the purpose of assigning students to each school in the system. Further allows the school board to provide a lottery preference for enrollment at elementary and middle schools for students residing within defined geographic zones as one of the factors to determine student assignment.

Proposed law provides that beginning not later than the 2019-2020 school year, any parish-wide or other unified enrollment system utilized by the local school board to assign students to schools under its jurisdiction shall, at a minimum:

(1) Establish a geographic zone for each school and provide that at least 20% but not more than 50%, of the students assigned to and enrolled in the school reside in that geographic zone.

(2) Provide that if the board does not receive a sufficient number of applications from students residing in a school's geographic zone to meet the required minimum enrollment percentage, then the excess seats may be filled by students residing outside of the school's geographic zone in a subsequent selection round.

(3) Provide that when there is excess enrollment capacity in a school at any point in time, a student who resides in the school's geographic zone may apply to and be enrolled in the school at any time during the school year.

(4) Provide a reasonable time frame within which a student can submit an application for admission to the school or schools of his choice. The first or main application round must begin no earlier than November 15th and conclude no later than March 15th of each year.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Adds R.S. 17:10.7.1(J))