

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

SENATE BILL NO. 23

BY SENATOR MCMATH

SCHOOLS. Requires school boards to accept certification of illness from a nurse practitioner or physician assistant when employees use leave due to personal illness. (gov sig) (Item #42)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:500(B)(1), 1201(A)(2), and 1206(A)(1), relative to sick leave
3 for school employees; to require a teacher, school bus operator, or other school
4 employee to present a certificate from a physician, physician assistant, or nurse
5 practitioner when using more than six days of sick leave for personal illness; to
6 provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:500(B)(1), 1201(A)(2), and 1206(A)(1) are hereby amended and
9 reenacted to read as follows:

10 §500. Sick leave for school bus operators; minimum pay for substitute

11 * * *

12 B.(1) All school bus operators employed by the parish and the city school
13 boards of this state shall be entitled to and shall be allowed a minimum of ten days
14 absence per school year because of personal illness or because of other emergencies,
15 without loss of pay. Such sick leave when not used in any year shall be accumulated
16 to the credit of the school bus operator without limitation. Provided that when a
17 school bus operator is absent for six or more consecutive days because of personal

1 illness, he shall be required to present a certificate from a physician, **physician**
 2 **assistant, or nurse practitioner** certifying such illness; provided, further, that the
 3 parish and city school boards are authorized to adopt such rules and regulations as
 4 are necessary relative to the use of such sick leave, either current or accumulated, for
 5 emergencies. The parish and city school boards may grant additional sick leave,
 6 without loss of pay, or with such reduction of pay as they may establish and fix.

7 * * *

8 §1201. Amount of sick leave; reimbursement; injury on the job

9 A. * * *

10 (2) When a member of the teaching staff is absent for six or more
 11 consecutive days because of personal illness, he shall be required to present a
 12 certificate from a physician, **physician assistant, or nurse practitioner** certifying
 13 such illness. Each parish and city school board may adopt such rules and regulations
 14 as are necessary relative to the use of such sick leave, either current or accumulated,
 15 for emergencies. The parish and city school boards may grant additional sick leave,
 16 without loss of pay, or with such reduction of pay as they may establish and fix.

17 * * *

18 §1206. Ten days sick leave for employees; cumulation of unused sick leave

19 A.(1) All such employees, as defined in R.S. 17:1205, shall be entitled to and
 20 shall be allowed a minimum of ten days leave of absence as sick leave or in case of
 21 other emergencies, per school year, without loss of pay. Any portion of such sick
 22 leave not used in any year shall be accumulated to the credit of the employee without
 23 limitation. When such employee is absent for six or more consecutive days because
 24 of personal illness, he shall be required to present a certificate from a physician,
 25 **physician assistant, or nurse practitioner** certifying such illness. Each parish and
 26 city school board may adopt such rules and regulations as are necessary relative to
 27 the use of such sick leave, either current or accumulated, for emergencies. The parish
 28 and city school boards may grant additional sick leave, without loss of pay, or with
 29 such reduction of pay as they may establish and fix.

1 * * *

2 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
3 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
4 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
5 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
6 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

DIGEST

SB 23 Original

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

McMath

Present law provides that all teachers, school bus operators, or other school employees employed by the parish and the city school boards of this state shall be allowed a minimum of 10 days absence per school year because of personal illness or because of other emergencies, without loss of pay.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that when a teacher, school bus operator, or other school employee is absent for six or more consecutive days because of personal illness, he shall be required to present a certificate from a physician certifying such illness.

Proposed law retains present law and requires the school board to also accept a certification of the illness from a physician assistant or nurse practitioner.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:500(B)(1), 1201(A)(2), and 1206(A)(1))