

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 349

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRYANT

SCHOOLS/BUS OPERATORS: Provides relative to the removal of school bus operators

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:493(C)(1), relative to the removal of school bus operators;
3 to provide for appeals disciplinary actions under certain circumstances; and to
4 provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:493(C)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §493. Removal of bus operators; procedures; right to appeal

8 * * *

9 C.(1) The superintendent shall have ten calendar days to review the school
10 bus operator's response and to provide written notice to the bus operator of the
11 interim disciplinary action, if any. A superintendent may take interim disciplinary
12 action, which may include placing the bus operator on administrative leave. The
13 operator may appeal the interim disciplinary action within twenty days. A
14 permanent bus operator shall not be placed on administrative leave without pay
15 unless the bus operator has been arrested for a violation of the following: R.S. 14:42
16 through 43.5, 80 through 81.5, any other sexual offense affecting minors, any of the
17 crimes provided in R.S. 15:587.1, or any justified complaint of child abuse or neglect
18 on file in the central registry pursuant to Children's Code Article 615.

19 * * *

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 349 Original

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Bryant

Abstract: Adds an appeal step to the school bus operator disciplinary process in certain circumstances.

Present law provides for the removal of a permanent school bus operator by the local school board if the bus operator is found guilty on written and signed charges of certain offenses, including:

- (1) Willful neglect of duty.
- (2) Incompetence.
- (3) Immorality.
- (4) Drunkenness while on duty.

Present law provides that a permanent school bus operator has 10 calendar days from receipt of the written notice of charges to respond either in person or in writing. Authorizes the superintendent to take interim disciplinary action including placing the bus operator on administrative leave without pay.

Proposed law retains present law except authorizes a bus operator to appeal an interim disciplinary action.

(Amends R.S. 17:493(C)(1))