HLS 22RS-1708 ORIGINAL

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 946

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

EDUCATION/SPECIAL: Provides relative to the membership and reports of special education advisory councils

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:1944.1(B)(1) and (C), relative to local special education
3	advisory councils; to provide relative to membership on such councils; to provide
4	relative to reports from such councils; and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 17:1944.1(B)(1) and (C) are hereby amended and reenacted to read
7	as follows:
8	§1944.1. Local special education advisory councils; creation; purpose
9	* * *
0	B.(1) The number of Each council shall be comprised of not fewer than
1	thirteen members, and composition of the council shall be determined by the local
12	public school superintendent or the administrative head of each charter school or
13	other public school. However, the council's membership shall be composed as
4	follows:
15	(a) Fifty At least fifty percent of the membership shall be parents or legal
16	guardians of students with an exceptionality, other than gifted and talented, who are
17	enrolled in a school under the jurisdiction of the public school governing authority,
18	none of whom shall be employees of the public school governing authority.
19	(b) Twenty-five percent of the membership shall be teachers, principals, or
20	<del>paraprofessionals.</del>

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

1 (c) Twenty-five At least ten percent of the membership shall be other special 2 education stakeholders other than those provided for by Subparagraphs (a) and (c) 3 of this Paragraph. 4 (c) A teacher, principal, or paraprofessional shall be appointed to any 5 position on a council that is not filled by a person specified in Subparagraph (a) or 6 (b) of this Paragraph. 7 8 C. Each special education advisory council shall meet at least three times a 9 year and shall submit a written report to the local public school superintendent or the 10 administrative head of the charter school or other public school and the Louisiana Special Education Advisory Panel in May of each year regarding its activities. The 11 12 local public school superintendent or the administrative head of the charter school or other public school shall ensure that the report is posted on the district's or the 13 14 school's website, and all such reports shall be submitted to the state Department of 15 Education and published on its website. 16

## **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 946 Original

2022 Regular Session

Dustin Miller

**Abstract:** Provides relative to membership on and reports produced by local special education advisory councils, which advise public schools regarding special education.

<u>Present law</u> requires each local public school superintendent and the administrative head of each charter school or other public school to create a special education advisory council to provide advice and feedback regarding special education policies, procedures, and resources. Provides that such a council shall also engage in outreach activities to increase the level of knowledge, support, and collaboration with respect to special education.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the number of council members is determined by the authority creating the council. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> except to require that each local council consist of not fewer than 13 members.

Proposed law modifies requirements regarding groups represented on the council as follows:

- (1) Parents or legal guardians of current students with an exceptionality, other than gifted and talented:
  - <u>Present law</u> requires that 50% of council membership be members of this group. <u>Proposed law</u> requires that *at least* 50% of council membership be members of this group. Also prohibits inclusion of school employees in this membership group.
- (2) Special education stakeholders other than parents and teachers, principals, or paraprofessionals:
  - <u>Present law</u> requires that 25% of council membership be members of this group. <u>Proposed law</u> requires that *at least 10%* of council membership be members of this group.
- (3) Teachers, principals, or paraprofessionals:

<u>Present law</u> requires that 25% of council membership be members of this group. <u>Proposed law</u> requires the balance of the council membership be appointed from this group.

<u>Present law</u> requires that each local special education advisory council report annually to the superintendent or administrative head.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires each council to also report to the La. Special Education Advisory Panel. Requires that the superintendent or administrative head ensure that the report is posted on the district's or the school's website. Further requires publication of all such reports on the state Dept. of Education's website.

(Amends R.S. 17:1944.1(B)(1) and (C))