

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 121

BY REPRESENTATIVE AMEDEE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS: Requires public schools to provide at least one recess period per school day in schools with any grade kindergarten through fifth grade

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1) and to enact R.S. 17:17.7, relative to required
3 recess for students; to require certain public schools to provide daily recess; to
4 provide for a minimum duration of such recess; to provide relative to public school
5 calendars; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:17.7
8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §17.7. Required recess

10 Each public school that includes any of the grades kindergarten through five
11 shall provide at least fifteen minutes of recess, consisting of supervised, unstructured
12 free play, each school day.

13 * * *

14 §154.1. Length of school day and year; requirements

15 A.(1) The minimum school day for grades one through twelve in every
16 public school in the state shall consist of three hundred sixty minutes of instructional
17 time, ~~exclusive of all recesses~~. The minimum school year shall consist of one
18 hundred seventy-seven days of instruction. However, in order to provide teacher
19 training, provide for the safety and well-being of students, or implement other
20 educational reform efforts, any governing authority of a public elementary or

1 secondary school may authorize some or all of its schools to modify the total number
 2 of instructional minutes per day and instructional days per year as long as the total
 3 number of instructional minutes per year is no less than the minimum number of
 4 instructional minutes per day multiplied by the minimum number of instructional
 5 days as required by this Section.

6 * * *

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)]

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Abstract: Requires daily recess of at least 15 minutes for public school students in schools with grades kindergarten through five.

Present law provides requirements for a minimum number of instructional minutes for the school day (360) and a minimum number of instructional days for the school year (177) for grades one through 12 in public schools. Present law excludes recess from the minimum number of instructional minutes. Proposed law removes this exclusion.

Proposed law requires each public school that includes any of the grades kindergarten through five to provide at least 15 minutes of recess each day, consisting of supervised, unstructured free play.

(Amends R.S. 17:154.1(A)(1); Adds R.S. 17:17.7)