

ACT No. 55

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 78

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:100.11(G)(1) and (I)(2) and 100.12, relative to school facilities and needs in certain school districts; to provide relative to funds dedicated to preserving and improving school facilities; to provide for the systemwide needs program and for the funding and operation of such program; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:100.11(G)(1) and (I)(2) and 100.12 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§100.11. School facilities preservation; certain districts

* * *

G.(1) The school board shall establish a capital improvement fund and make grants from the fund to schools that are in on campuses in the school district to finance preservation, improvements, capital repairs, construction, and replacement of facilities ~~that were constructed prior to September 1, 2005, and that have not received a renovation exceeding half the value of the facility's replacement cost since that date, all in accordance with this Subsection.~~

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I. For purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the meaning ascribed:

* * *

1 (2) "School" means any public school with a unique site code assigned by
 2 the department or any educational program that serves public school students on a
 3 campus pursuant to a partnership with the school board as defined by school board
 4 policy governing school facilities preservation.

5 * * *

6 §100.12. Systemwide needs program

7 A.(1) There is hereby established for each school district as defined in R.S.
 8 17:100.11(I) a systemwide needs program. The program shall be funded, structured,
 9 and operated as provided in this Section and ~~policies~~ by policies adopted by the
 10 school board.

11 (2) The purpose of the program is to direct initiatives that will result in
 12 districtwide improvements in areas that can be more efficiently and effectively
 13 addressed at the system level than at the school level.

14 B. The school district shall create a special fund for the purpose of
 15 dedicating money to the program. The district shall annually deposit into the fund
 16 one hundred twenty dollars per student in the district less the district's expenditures
 17 that year for costs identified in R.S. 17:1990(C)(2)(a)(iii)(aa)(I) through (IV). The
 18 office provided for in Subsection C of this Section shall receive ten dollars per
 19 student in the district from the fund. The school board may adjust this amount on an
 20 annual basis by the lesser of the most recent annual percentage increase in the
 21 Consumer Price Index published by the United States Department of Labor or the
 22 percentage increase in the minimum foundation program formula funds from the
 23 prior to the current year.

24 C. The school board shall create an office to manage and oversee the
 25 program. To the extent that funds are available, the office shall perform the
 26 following functions:

27 (1) Oversee the planning, development, engagement, and execution of the
 28 improvement plans provided for in Subsection D of this Section.

29 (2) Collect, analyze, and report on systemwide needs program performance
 30 data.

1 (3) Track key plan and program outputs, performance outcomes, and
2 expenditure of funds.

3 (4) Monitor service offerings by funding recipients and tracking performance
4 objectives.

5 (5) Perform administrative tasks related to the competitive process provided
6 for in Subsection F of this Section, data management, and program budgeting.

7 (6) Oversee contract development and management.

8 D. The superintendent shall:

9 (1) Develop and propose plans for improvement in particular areas of focus.
10 The superintendent shall propose an improvement plan to use the systemwide needs
11 fund to support one or more areas of focus for no less than three years and shall
12 propose new areas of focus and improvement plans for school board approval not
13 more frequently than once every three years. The superintendent shall develop such
14 plans and proposed areas of focus in collaboration with school leaders in the school
15 district as more specifically provided by school board policy.

16 (2) Include related performance objectives and a proposed level of funding
17 in any plan for improvement in an area of focus.

18 (3) Submit such plans to the school board for approval; such approval
19 requires a majority vote of the entire membership of the board. The superintendent
20 shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the school board, that an area of focus will
21 impact at least fifty percent of the public school students or fifty percent of the public
22 schools over the course of the funding cycle for the area of focus.

23 (4) Consider how the expenditures from the fund could be coordinated with
24 other funds in order to increase the effectiveness of the program.

25 (5) Annually report to the school board on the performance objectives and
26 the expenditure of funds for the program.

27 ~~D.~~ E. The school board may approve a plan and proposed areas of focus and
28 appropriate expenditures from the fund therefor.

1 E. F.(1) The superintendent shall implement an approved plan by awarding
 2 funds through a competitive process according to policies developed by the school
 3 board. Funds may be expended directly by the district ~~but shall not be used to pay,~~
 4 ~~directly or indirectly, for school district or school board personnel, staff, or operating~~
 5 ~~expenditures.~~ Funds awarded to schools may be used only for the following
 6 purposes:

7 (a) Procuring materials, services, or other supports from district-approved
 8 organizations or vendors.

9 (b) Providing services for students systemwide that are aligned with one or
 10 more board-approved areas of focus.

11 (2) An applicant for funds shall demonstrate how the proposed good or
 12 service will contribute to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the approved
 13 plan.

14 (3) An applicant for funds shall demonstrate that at least twenty-five percent
 15 of the funds it will expend to achieve its proposal are from sources other than this
 16 program.

17 (4) Funding applications shall be approved according to school board policy.
 18 No expenditure shall be made from the fund except as provided in this Subsection.
 19 No expenditure of funds shall be made in excess of the amount approved by the
 20 school board for a particular area of focus.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____