

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 26

BY SENATOR FIELDS

SCHOOLS. Requires heating and air conditioning on school buses. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:164.3, relative to school buses; to require all school buses used in transportation of students to and from school to be equipped with heating and air conditioning; to provide relative to rules and regulations of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; to provide relative to compliance; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:164.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§164.3. Additional regulations; heating and air conditioning systems required; compliance**

**A. In addition to any regulations adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 17:164 relative to the construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses used in the transportation of students, the board also shall adopt rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and any applicable federal standards to require that on and after August 1, 2025, every bus used primarily for the transportation of students shall be equipped with**

1 passenger compartment heating and air conditioning systems.

2 B. Notwithstanding any provision of R.S. 17:164 to the contrary, the  
 3 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall require each  
 4 governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and each  
 5 nonpublic elementary and secondary school approved by the board to comply  
 6 with the rules and regulations adopted by the board pursuant to the provisions  
 7 of Subsection A of this Section.

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

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Frances Aucoin.

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DIGEST

SB 26 Original

2024 Regular Session

Fields

Proposed law provides for BESE to adopt rules and regulations (in accordance with the APA and any applicable federal standards) to require that on and after August 1, 2025, every school bus used primarily for the transportation of students be equipped with passenger compartment heating and air conditioning systems.

Proposed law provides that notwithstanding certain provisions of present law relative to the construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses, BESE must require each governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and each nonpublic elementary and secondary school approved by the board to comply with such rules and regulations.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:164.3)