
DIGEST

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HB 322 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Stagni

Abstract: Provides for disciplinary authority to public school teachers in certain scenarios.

Present law (R.S. 17:416) provides relative to student discipline.

Present law authorizes teachers to take disciplinary action against a student who violates school rules or interferes with an orderly education process. Proposed law retains present law and further prohibits a principal or administrator from discouraging a teacher from taking disciplinary action against a student in such scenario. Prohibits retaliation and taking employment action against a teacher for taking disciplinary action that complies with policy against a student.

Present law authorizes a teacher to remove a student whose behavior prevents the orderly instruction of other students, poses an immediate threat to the safety or physical well-being of any student or teacher, or when a student violates the school's code of conduct. Proposed law instead requires such removal.

Present law authorizes, after the third removal in this manner, a conference between the teacher and student's parent before the student returns to the classroom. Proposed law instead requires this conference.

Present law (R.S. 17:416.18) provides for a Teacher Bill of Rights.

Prohibits a public school board from establishing policies that prevent teachers from exercising the rights provided in present law (R.S. 17:416 through 416.16). Proposed law further prohibits a principal or administrator from retaliating and taking employment action against a teacher for exercising rights provided in present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:416(A)(1)(b)(i) and (c)(i) and (v) and 416.18(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Specify that proposed law prohibition on adverse employment action against a teacher for taking disciplinary action is limited to when teachers take action in accordance with public school governing authority policy.

2. Specify that teachers are not authorized to violate public school governing authority discipline policy in the exercise of their rights.