

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 334

2024 Regular Session

Amedee

SCHOOLS: Authorizes school boards to provide for chaplains to serve in public schools as employees or on a volunteer basis.

DIGEST

Proposed law allows each city, parish, or other local public school board may employ or accept as a volunteer a certified chaplain to provide support, services, and programs for students, staff, and parents as assigned by a school board pursuant to proposed law.

Proposed law provides that a school chaplain employed or accepted as a volunteer is not required to be certified by BESE.

Proposed law requires that each chaplain consent to a fingerprint based state and federal criminal background check and prohibits the hiring of a chaplain who is a registered sex offender or child predator.

Proposed law limits the liability of chaplains for any action taken or statement made in adherence with the provisions for service, support, and programs for students. Furthermore, proposed law denies immunity from liability to any action or statement by chaplains, if the action or statement was maliciously, willfully, and deliberately intended to cause harm to harass or intimidate those seeking support, services, and programs.

(Adds R.S. 17:3011-3014)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make technical changes.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the reengrossed bill

1. Provides for certified chaplains.
2. Provides for prohibited hires.
3. Provides for limitation of liability.