

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 661

2026 Regular Session

Fontenot

ETHICS/NEPOTISM: Provides for exceptions for hiring the immediate family member of a school board member or superintendent for certain positions

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Add the repeal of a present law exception authorizing the promotion of a classroom teacher or special education professional that is a member of the immediate family member of a school board member or superintendent to an administrative position.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law generally provides that no member of the immediate family of a member of a governing authority or the chief executive of a governmental entity shall be employed by the governmental entity. Present law provides for exceptions.

Proposed law retains present law and provides additional exceptions for a school board to hire an immediate family member of a school board member or superintendent as a paraprofessional, custodian, or cafeteria worker provided the family member meets the criteria for such position and the school board member or superintendent recuse himself from any decision involving the promotion or assignment of such employee.

Present law provides that any local school board may employ any member of the immediate family of any board member or of the superintendent as a classroom teacher provided that such family member is certified to teach or is temporarily authorized to teach while pursuing certification. Further provides that any local school board in a parish having a population of fewer than 60,000 may employ any member of the immediate family of any board member or of the superintendent as a special education related services professional provided that such family member is licensed in an appropriate field and such family member is the only applicant who meets the qualifications for the position after the position has been properly advertised.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that an immediate family member of a member of a local school board or of a superintendent who has been employed as a classroom teacher or special education related services professional pursuant to present law for at least one year may be promoted to an administrative position by such school board provided that such family member has the appropriate qualifications and certifications for such position. Provides that a school board member whose immediate family member is to be promoted to an administrative position shall recuse himself from any action involving the promotion or assignment of job location of such employee, and a superintendent whose immediate family member is to be promoted to an administrative position shall disqualify himself from any action involving the promotion or assignment of job location of such employee.

Proposed law repeals present law.

(Adds R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(vii); Repeals R.S. 42:1119(B)(2)(a)(v))