
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

DIGEST

Nevers (SB 61)

Proposed law changes the title of Ch. 43 of Title 17 of the La. Revised Statutes from "School Choice Scholarships" to "School Choice".

Proposed law provides for public school choice as follows:

- (1) Beginning with the 2014-2015 school year, the parent or other legal guardian of any student may enroll their child in the public school of their choice, without regard to residence, school system geographic boundaries, or attendance zones, provided both of the following apply:
 - (a) The public school in which the student was most recently enrolled, or would otherwise attend, received a school performance letter grade of "D" or "F" for the most recent school year.
 - (b) The school in which the student seeks to enroll received a school performance letter grade of "A", "B", or "C" for the most recent school year, and has sufficient capacity at the appropriate grade level.
- (2) Provides that the authority provided by proposed law to enroll a student in the public school of choice shall not be permitted and shall not be exercised, if doing so violates the order of a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (3) Provides that notwithstanding the provisions of present law, a school system shall not be required to provide transportation to any student enrolled in a public school pursuant to proposed law that is located outside of the geographic boundaries of the school system in which he resides, if it will result in additional cost to the school system.
- (4) Provides that a student enrolled in a public school pursuant to proposed law shall be counted by the school system in which he is enrolled for purposes of the Minimum Foundation Program and formula, and any other available state or federal funding for which the student is eligible.
- (5) Requires the governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school to work collaboratively and cooperatively to ensure compliance with proposed law.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:4035 and 4035.1)