

SENATE BILL NO. 608

BY SENATOR BROWN

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 213 and to enact Code of Criminal  
3 Procedure Art. 202(F), relative to warrants of arrest; to prohibit the issuance of  
4 warrants of arrest for school employees under certain circumstances; and to provide  
5 for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 213 is hereby amended and reenacted  
8 and Code of Criminal Procedure Art. 202(F) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 Art. 202. Warrant of arrest; issuance

10 \* \* \*

11 **F. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no**  
12 **magistrate shall have the authority to issue a warrant for the arrest of a school**  
13 **employee, as defined by R.S. 17:16(G), for any misdemeanor allegedly**  
14 **committed upon a student during the course and scope of the school employee's**  
15 **employment regardless whether the act is alleged to have occurred on or off the**  
16 **school campus. In all such instances, a summons shall be issued to the school**  
17 **employee pursuant to Code of Criminal Procedure Article 209.**

18 \* \* \*

19 Art. 213. Arrest by officer without warrant; when lawful

20 **A.** A peace officer may, without a warrant, arrest a person ~~when~~ **under any**  
21 **of the following circumstances:**

22 (1) The person to be arrested has committed an offense in his presence;<sup>2</sup> and  
23 if the arrest is for a misdemeanor, it must be made immediately or on close pursuit;<sup>2</sup>

24 (2) The person to be arrested has committed a felony, although not in the

1 presence of the officer;

2 (3) The peace officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be  
3 arrested has committed an offense, although not in the presence of the officer; ~~or,~~

4 (4) The peace officer has received positive and reliable information that  
5 another peace officer from this state holds an arrest warrant, or a peace officer of  
6 another state or the United States holds an arrest warrant for a felony offense.

7 **B.** A peace officer in close pursuit of a person to be arrested, who is making  
8 an arrest pursuant to this Article may enter another jurisdiction in this state and make  
9 the arrest.

10 **C.(1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, and**  
11 **notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no peace officer**  
12 **shall have the authority to arrest a school employee, as defined by R.S.**  
13 **17:16(G), for any misdemeanor allegedly committed upon a student during the**  
14 **course and scope of the school employee's employment regardless whether the**  
15 **act is alleged to have occurred on or off the school campus. In all such**  
16 **instances, a summons shall be issued to the school employee pursuant to Code**  
17 **of Criminal Procedure Article 209.**

18 **(2) A peace officer may arrest a school employee as defined in R.S.**  
19 **17:16(G) and as provided in Subsection A of this Section in either of the**  
20 **following instances:**

21 **(a) The peace officer personally witnesses an alleged violation of R.S.**  
22 **14:35 committed upon a student by a school employee, whether on or off**  
23 **campus.**

24 **(b) The peace officer receives a complaint of an alleged violation of R.S.**  
25 **14:35 committed upon a student by a school employee, whether alleged to have**  
26 **occurred on or off campus, and there is physical evidence of a resulting injury**  
27 **to the student which is personally witnessed by the officer.**

28 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
29 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
30 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
2 effective on the day following such approval.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_