

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 293

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

SCHOOLS. Provides relative to charter school funding. (7/1/16)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3995(A)(1)(b)(ii) and to repeal R.S. 17:3995(A)(1)(c), relative to charter school funding; to provide relative to the use of certain local revenues for computing the per pupil amount provided to all charter schools; to provide exceptions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3995(A)(1)(b)(ii) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3995. Charter school funding

A.(1) For the purpose of funding, a Type 1, Type 3, Type 3B not acting as its own local education agency, and Type 4 charter school shall be considered an approved public school of the local school board entering into the charter agreement. Type 1B and Type 2 charter schools and a Type 3B charter school acting as its own local education agency shall receive a per pupil amount each year authorized by the state board each year as provided in the approved minimum foundation program formula. The per pupil amount provided to a Type 1, 1B, 2, 3, 3B, or 4 charter school

1 shall be computed annually and shall be equal to the per pupil amount provided  
2 through the minimum foundation program formula, determined by the allocation  
3 weights in the formula based upon student characteristics or needs, received by the  
4 school district in which the student resides from the following sources based on the  
5 district's membership count used in the minimum foundation program formula:

6 \* \* \*

7 (b)(i) Local revenues received during the prior year by the school district  
8 from the following sources:

9 \* \* \*

10 (ii) For the purposes of this Subparagraph, local revenues shall exclude any  
11 portion which has been specifically dedicated by the legislature or by voter approval  
12 to capital outlay, ~~or debt service,~~ **teacher and school employee salaries and**  
13 **benefits, or the expenses of maintaining and repairing schools.**

14 \* \* \*

15 Section 2. R.S. 17:3995(A)(1)(c) is hereby repealed.

16 Section 3. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2016; if vetoed by the governor  
17 and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on July 1,  
18 2016, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

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DIGEST

SB 293 Original 2016 Regular Session Cortez

Present law provides for the per pupil amount to be allocated to the various types of charter schools through the minimum foundation program (MFP) formula.

Present law provides that local revenues to be utilized in determining the local portion of MFP funds to be allocated to charter schools shall include:

- (1) Sales and use taxes, less any collection fee paid by the school district.
- (2) Ad valorem taxes, less any collection fee paid by the school district.
- (3) Earnings from sixteenth section lands owned by the school district.

Present law provides that local revenues shall exclude any portion which has been specifically dedicated by the legislature or by voter approval to capital outlay or debt service.

Proposed law retains present law but adds to the list of exclusions from local revenues any portion which has been specifically dedicated by the legislature or by voter approval to teacher and school employee salaries and benefits or the expenses of maintaining and repairing schools.

Present law provides that the exclusion from local revenues for any portion which has been specifically dedicated by the legislature or by voter approval to capital outlay or debt service, shall be applicable only to a charter school housed in a facility or facilities provided by the district in which the charter school is located.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective July 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 17:3995(A)(1)(b)(ii); repeals R.S. 17:3995(A)(1)(c))