

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

SB 128

2021 Regular Session

Jackson

June 8, 2021

To the Honorable President and Members of the Senate and to the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We, the conferees appointed to confer over the disagreement between the two houses concerning Senate Bill No. 128 by Senator Jackson, recommend the following concerning the Reengrossed bill:

- 1. That Amendments No. 1 and No. 2 of the set of House Floor Amendments (HFASB128 224 3910) proposed by Representative Jefferson and adopted by the House of Representatives on June 7, 2021, be adopted.
- 2. That Amendments No. 3 and No. 4 of the set of House Floor Amendments (HFASB128 224 3910) proposed by Representative Jefferson and adopted by the House of Representatives on June 7, 2021, be rejected.
- 3. That the following amendments to the Reengrossed bill be adopted:

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 2, delete line 4, and insert the following:

"Section 2. R.S. 17:426 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§426. Free and unhampered passage on the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge; teachers, school bus drivers, and other school employees

A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, every teacher, school bus driver, and other school employee employed by the Lafourche Parish School Board shall have free and unhampered passage crossing the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge, also known as the Tomey J. Doucet Bridge, when traveling to and from their work place on a scheduled work day, as prescribed by the school board, not to exceed two toll-free crossings in one day.

B. The Department of Transportation and Development shall adopt rules and regulations to implement and enforce the provisions of this Section in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

Section 3. The provisions of Section 1 of this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2022.

Section 4. The provisions of Section 2 of this Act shall become effective on August 1, 2023, or upon the adoption of final rules and regulations by the Department of Transportation and Development to implement the Section, whichever date is sooner."

Respectfully submitted,

Senators:

Representatives:

Senator Katrina R. Jackson

Representative Patrick O. Jefferson

Senator Cleo Fields

Representative Buddy Mincey, Jr.

Senator Beth Mizell

Representative Mark Wright

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

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST

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Keyword and summary of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

TEACHERS. Provides relative to teacher planning time and the exemption of certain school employees from payment of certain tolls. (See Act)

Report adopts House amendments to:

1. Amend the title.

Report rejects House amendments which would have:

1. Provided toll-free passage on the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge (The Tomey J. Doucet Bridge) to teachers and other Lafourche Parish School Board employees.

Report amends the bill to:

1. Provide toll-free passage on the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge (The Tomey J. Doucet Bridge) to teachers and other Lafourche Parish School Board employees on work days, as prescribed by the board.
2. Limit the number of toll-free crossings to two times in one day.
3. Require the state Department of Transportation and Development to adopt rules and regulations to implement provisions relative to the exemption of Lafourche Parish School Board employees from tolls on the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge.
4. Make the provisions of the bill relative to teacher planning time effective on July 1, 2022.
5. Make the provisions of the bill relative to exemptions from the payment of tolls on the La. Highway 1 Bridge effective on August 1, 2023, or the date of the adoption of final rules by the Department of Transportation and Development, whichever is sooner.

Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee

DIGEST

SB 128 Reengrossed

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Present law provides that, if state funds are available, each teacher shall be provided a minimum of 45 minutes of planning time and a minimum of 30 minutes for lunch each day which shall be duty-free and provides that the school day shall not be lengthened to accommodate the provision of the planning time and lunch period.

Proposed law deletes the requirement for a duty-free lunch period. Requires each teacher to be provided a minimum of 45 minutes of uninterrupted planning time each day.

Proposed law prohibits a reduction in daily student instructional time to accommodate the provision of the planning time.

Proposed law removes the contingency making implementation subject to the availability of state funds.

Proposed law requires that teachers, school bus drivers, and other Lafourche Parish School Board employees have free and unhampered passage crossing the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge, also known as the Tomey J. Doucet Bridge, when traveling to and from their work place on work days, as prescribed by the board, not to exceed two toll-free crossings in one day. Requires the state Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to adopt rules and regulations to implement the provisions of proposed law.

Provisions of proposed law relative to teacher planning time are effective on July 1, 2022.

Provisions of proposed law relative to exemptions from the payment of tolls on the La. Highway 1 Bridge are effective on August 1, 2023, or the date of the adoption of final rules by DOTD, whichever is sooner.

(Amends R.S. 17:434(A); adds R.S. 17:426)