

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 782

BY REPRESENTATIVE PHELPS

SCHOOLS/ADMINISTRATORS: Provides relative to the appointment of school principals

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:414.1, relative to the appointment of school principals; to
3 provide that the appointment of a principal by the local school superintendent is
4 subject to the approval of the school board; to provide a process for such approval;
5 to require school boards to develop and implement an internship program for training
6 and preparing individuals to serve as a principals; to provide that applicants for
7 principal positions who have been through the internship program shall be granted
8 an interview; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:414.1 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

11 §414.1. Public elementary and secondary school principals; duties

12 A. The principal for each public elementary and secondary school shall be
13 appointed by and serve under the direction of the local superintendent of schools as
14 the administrative officer of the school to which he is assigned. Consistent with the
15 requirements of law and the rules and regulations of the State Board of Elementary
16 and Secondary Education and the local public school board by which he is employed,
17 he shall have administrative responsibility for the direction and supervision of the
18 personnel and activities and the administration of the affairs of that school.

19 B.(1) The appointment of a principal by the superintendent is subject to
20 approval by the school board.

1 (2) Applicants for each vacancy in a school principal position shall be
2 interviewed by an interview committee formed by the school system's director of
3 human resources. The committee shall screen the applications, interview all
4 qualified applicants, and submit three applicants to the superintendent for his
5 consideration.

6 (3) The superintendent shall select a candidate from those submitted by the
7 interview committee to recommend to the board at an open public meeting that has
8 been properly noticed.

9 (4) If the superintendent's recommendation is denied, he shall recommend
10 another candidate from the finalist pool.

11 C. Each public school board shall develop and implement an internship
12 program for training and preparing individuals to serve as a principal. Any applicant
13 for a principal position who has been through the internship program shall be granted
14 an interview by the interview committee.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 782 Original

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Phelps

Abstract: Subjects a superintendent's appointment of a principal to the approval of the school board.

Present law provides for each school principal to be appointed by the local school superintendent and serve as the administrative officer of the school to which he is assigned.

Proposed law retains present law but subjects the appointment to the approval of the local school board as follows:

- (1) Applicants for each vacancy in a school principal position shall be interviewed by an interview committee formed by the school system's director of human resources, which shall screen the applications, interview all qualified applicants, and submit three applicants to the superintendent for his consideration.
- (2) The superintendent shall select a candidate from those submitted by the interview committee to recommend to the board at an open public meeting that has been properly noticed.
- (3) If a nominee is denied, the superintendent shall recommend another candidate from the finalist pool.

Proposed law requires each public school board to develop and implement an internship program for training and preparing individuals to serve as principals. Provides that any applicant for a principal position who has been through the internship program shall be granted an interview by the interview committee.

(Amends R.S. 17:414.1)