

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 86

BY REPRESENTATIVES HODGES, AMEDEE, BOYD, ECHOLS, EMERSON,  
FRIEMAN, GAROFALO, JEFFERSON, KNOX, AND SEABAUGH

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS/EMPLOYEES: Creates the "Protect Teachers Act"

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:416.11, relative to liability of school employees; to provide  
3 for immunity from civil liability and criminal prosecution under certain  
4 circumstances; to provide for an exception; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 17:416.11 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §416.11. Discipline of pupils; limitation of liability

8 A. ~~No~~ A teacher, principal, or administrator in a public school system or in  
9 an approved nonpublic school shall be ~~personally liable~~ immune from civil liability  
10 for any act or failure to act in the directing of or disciplining of school ~~children~~  
11 students under his care and supervision, unless such act or failure to act was  
12 malicious and willfully and deliberately intended to cause bodily harm.

13 B. A teacher, principal, or administrator in a public school system or in an  
14 approved nonpublic school who intervenes and acts in justifiable defense to protect  
15 a student or a school employee from a battery or aggravated battery committed by  
16 one or more students shall be immune from civil liability and criminal prosecution  
17 unless the act of intervention was malicious and willfully and deliberately intended  
18 to cause bodily harm.

19 ~~B. C.~~ C. This Section shall not be applicable to the operation, use, or  
20 maintenance of any motor vehicle.

21 Section 2. This Act shall be cited and referred to as the "Protect Teachers Act".

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**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)]

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HB 86 Engrossed

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Hodges

**Abstract:** Provides relative to liability of professional school board and approved nonpublic school employees

Present law provides that no teacher, principal, or administrator in a public school system or in an approved nonpublic school shall be personally liable for any act or failure to act in the directing of or disciplining of school children under his care and supervision, unless such act or failure to act was malicious and willfully and deliberately intended to cause bodily harm.

Proposed law amends present law to provide immunity from civil liability for any teacher, principal, or administrator in a public school system or in an approved nonpublic school who acts or fails to act in the directing of or disciplining of school students under his care and supervision, unless such act or failure to act was malicious and willfully and deliberately intended to cause bodily harm.

Proposed law provides immunity from civil liability and criminal prosecution for a teacher, principal, or administrator in a public school system or in an approved nonpublic school who intervenes and acts in justifiable defense to protect a student or a school employee from a battery or aggravated battery committed by one or more students unless the act of intervention was malicious and willfully and deliberately intended to cause bodily harm.

Proposed law shall be cited and referred to as the "Protect Teachers Act".

(Amends R.S. 17:416.11)