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## DIGEST

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HB 242 Engrossed

2023 Regular Session

Hilferty

**Abstract:** Provides relative to corporal punishment in elementary and secondary schools.

Present law prohibits the administration of corporal punishment to students with exceptionalities (except gifted and talented students), and to students who are eligible for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and who have an Individual Accommodation Plan. Otherwise grants local school boards discretion in the use of corporal punishment for all other students. Proposed law retains prohibition relative to students with exceptionalities.

Proposed law, relative to other students, prohibits any form of corporal punishment in public elementary and secondary schools unless a parent or legal guardian provides written consent for the use of corporal punishment as a form of discipline for his child. Requires the state Dept. of Education to create the document with which a parent would provide consent each school year.

Proposed law makes present law and proposed law applicable to nonpublic schools that receive state funds.

Present law defines corporal punishment to mean the use of physical force that causes pain or discomfort to discipline a student, not including seclusion or restraint under certain circumstances.

(Amends R.S. 17:416.1(B); Adds R.S. 17:416.22)