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DIGEST

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**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT DIGEST**

**HB 169**

**2023 Regular Session**

**Robert Owen**

**Keyword and oneliner of the instrument as it left the House**

SCHOOLS: Provides for safety protocols for elementary school students when being dropped off at and picked up from school

**Report adopts Senate amendments to:**

1. Apply proposed law to charter schools.
2. Remove proposed law requirement that, at a minimum, the policy established by public school governing authorities require that:
  - (a) Students must remain behind a physical barrier before entering a pick up area.
  - (b) A school employee working in the pick up area wear a traffic vest.

**Report rejects Senate amendments which would have:**

1. Applied proposed law to all nonpublic schools.

**Report amends the bill to:**

1. Make technical changes to the Senate amendments.
2. Relative to the policy established by public school governing authorities, require that, at a minimum students in grades kindergarten through *three*, instead of kindergarten through *five*, be accompanied by a school employee while walking to and from a *pick up area*, instead of *a vehicle*.
3. Apply proposed law to nonpublic schools for which transportation of students is provided by a city, parish, or other local public school board.

**Digest of the bill as proposed by the Conference Committee**

Present law (R.S. 17:81) provides for the general powers and duties of local public school boards.

Proposed law requires each public school governing authority to establish a policy for carpool and bus lines at schools with grades kindergarten through five. Includes charter schools.

At a minimum, the policy shall:

- (1) Require students to remain a safe distance from the pick up area behind something material or immaterial intended to block passage.
- (2) Require students wait in the pick up area and wait for vehicles to come to a complete stop.
- (3) Require a student being dropped off to remain in a passenger restraint until the vehicle in which he is a passenger comes to a complete stop.
- (4) Require that students in grades kindergarten through three be accompanied by a school employee while walking to and from a pick up area.
- (5) Require school administrators to post signage regarding the policy.

Present law (R.S. 17:158) provides relative to transportation of students in grades kindergarten through twelve. Requires a city, parish, or other local public school board to provide transportation to any student attending a school approved by the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education within the jurisdictional boundaries of the board to provide transportation to and from school.

Proposed law applies to any nonpublic school for which transportation of students is provided by a public school board.

(Adds R.S. 17:81(CC), 158(K), and 3996(B)(75))