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## DIGEST

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HB 583 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Amedee

**Abstract:** Provides for a parental petition process for the creation of foreign language immersion programs for students in grades prekindergarten through 12.

Present law (R.S. 17:273.3) authorizes local public school boards to establish foreign language immersion programs. Requires a school board to establish such a program if requested in writing by the parents of at least 25 students seeking enrollment in kindergarten or at least 25 students seeking enrollment in first grade if certain criteria are met. Requires that such program be continued as long as at least 20 students remain enrolled in the program.

Proposed law retains present law and further requires that if the program ceases despite having 20 students enrolled, the school board shall remit minimum foundation program foreign language teacher salary supplement funds to the state Dept. of Education.

Proposed law authorizes parents who submit requests to local school boards to make appeals to the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Proposed law authorizes parents, if school boards do not fulfill the requirements of present law to establish a program, to request approval as a charter school or request École Pointe-au-Chien, L'Academie de la Louisiane, or a Type 2 charter school with an immersion program open a new campus in an area that can serve their children.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:273.3(C)(2)(a)(intro. para,) and (v), (b), (d), and (e); Adds R.S. 17:273.3(C)(2)(g))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Remove name change of the International School in Lafayette to L'Académie de la Louisiane.
2. Remove narrowing scope of school from a world language immersion school to only French language.
3. Remove provision of governance of the school by a 16-member board of directors.

4. Remove expansion of École Pointe-au-Chien from a school for students in grades pre-K through 4 to also include grade 5.
5. Remove authorization for École Pointe-au-Chien campus locations outside of Terrebonne Parish.