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 DIGEST

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SB 26 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Fields

Proposed law requires the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to adopt rules requiring the following:

- (1) That all school buses purchased on or after Aug. 1, 2024, by a public school governing authority that are used primarily for student transportation be equipped with passenger compartment heating and air conditioning systems.
- (2) That all school buses owned by a public school governing authority that are used primarily for student transportation be equipped with such systems as of Aug. 1, 2029.

Proposed law requires BESE, notwithstanding present law relative to the construction, design, equipment, and operation of school buses, to require each public school governing authority to comply with these rules.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:164.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

1. Requires BESE to adopt rules to require that on and after August 1, 2024, every new or used school bus purchased by the governing authority of each public elementary and secondary school and each nonpublic elementary and secondary school be equipped with heating and air conditioning systems.
2. Requires BESE to adopt rules to require that on and after August 1, 2027, every school bus used primarily for the transportation of students shall be equipped with heating and air conditioning systems.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Remove application of proposed law to nonpublic schools.
2. Extend proposed law deadline for the requirement that all buses be equipped with heating and air conditioning systems from Aug. 1, 2027, to Aug. 1, 2029, and limit application of this requirement to buses owned by a public school governing authority.