

# ACT No. 368

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 143

BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:22.1, relative to the state superintendent of education; to authorize the  
3 superintendent to provide for a chief operating officer to research and make  
4 recommendations relative to the financial practices of school boards that fail to meet  
5 certain expenditure requirements as provided in the Minimum Foundation Program  
6 formula; to require the school boards to make plans for compliance; to subject the  
7 plans to the approval of the superintendent; to require the State Board of Elementary  
8 and Secondary Education to adopt rules; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:22.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §22.1. Superintendent; chief operating officer; assignment to local school systems

12 A. The state superintendent of education may provide for the department's  
13 assignment of a chief operating officer for the purposes provided in this Section.

14 B.(1) The superintendent may assign this officer to any city, parish, or other  
15 local school system that fails for two consecutive years to comply with any minimum  
16 instructional expenditure requirement contained in the Minimum Foundation  
17 Program formula as adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
18 Education and approved by the legislature. The officer shall be a contract employee  
19 who serves on a temporary basis as determined by the superintendent. He shall not  
20 be a permanent employee of the department and shall not receive a state salary or  
21 associated benefits.

1                   (2) The officer shall research the financial standing and practices of the  
 2                   system and submit a written report of his findings and recommendations to the local  
 3                   school board and the state superintendent of education, who shall include this  
 4                   information in any report he makes to the state board relative to system compliance  
 5                   with this requirement.

6                   (3) The school board shall develop a plan for compliance with this  
 7                   requirement based on the officer's recommendations and submit the plan to the state  
 8                   superintendent in accordance with timelines established in state board policy. The  
 9                   plan is subject to the approval of the superintendent prior to implementation.

10                   C. The state board shall adopt rules for the implementation of this Section.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_