

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 126

BY SENATORS KLEINPETER, ABRAHAM, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CLOUD, CONNICK, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HODGES, JENKINS, MCMATH, MIGUEZ, MIZELL, SELDERS, STINE AND WOMACK

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

SCHOOLS. Provides for school mapping data of public school buildings and facilities. (8/1/25)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:416.16.1 and 3996(B)(89), relative to school mapping data; to provide

3 relative to delivery of school mapping data; to provide for definitions; to provide for

4 school mapping data guidelines; to prohibit modification or updating of data without

5 certain corresponding updates; to provide for charter school exemptions; and to

6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:416.16.1 and 3996(B)(89) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 **§416.16.1. School mapping data**

10 **A.(1) The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the**

11 **state Department of Education shall coordinate with the Louisiana Center for**

12 **Safe Schools to provide the mapping data of all public schools in order to**

13 **provide law enforcement the appropriate tools needed for school safety.**

14 **(2) Upon preparing a school crisis management and response plan in**

15 **accordance with R.S. 17:416.16 each city, parish, or other local public school**

16 **system governing authority or a vendor, shall submit a copy of the most recent**

17 **blueprints and school mapping data of each school building and facility in the**

1 school system, to each local law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over any
2 portion of the school governing authority, each local and state public safety and
3 emergency preparedness office, the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools, and to
4 the school's office for use in response to emergencies.

5 (3) All aspects of the school mapping data shall be collected, produced,
6 and stored within the United States of America.

7 (4) For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the
8 following meanings:

9 (a) "First responders" means local, state, and federal law enforcement
10 agencies, fire, public safety, and emergency preparedness officials.

11 (b) "School mapping data" means information provided in an electronic
12 or digital format to assist first responders in responding to emergencies at
13 public schools.

14 B. The school mapping data provided shall do all of the following:

15 (1) Be compatible with software platforms used by local, parish, state,
16 and federal public safety agencies that provide emergency services to the
17 specific school for which the data is provided without requiring such agencies
18 to purchase additional software or requiring a fee to view or access the data.

19 (2) Be compatible with security software platforms in use by the specific
20 school for which the data is provided without requiring public safety agencies
21 or school districts to purchase additional software or requiring a fee to view or
22 access the data.

23 (3) Be available in a printable format.

24 (4) Be verified by the entity producing the data for accuracy by a
25 walk-through of school buildings and grounds.

26 (5) Be oriented true north.

27 (6) Be overlaid on current aerial imagery.

28 (7) Contain site-specific labeling that matches the structure of school
29 buildings including room labels, hallway names, and external door or stairwell

1 numbers and locations of hazards, critical utility locations, key boxes,
2 automated external defibrillators, and trauma kits.

3 (8) Contain site-specific labeling that matches the school grounds
4 including parking areas, athletic fields, surrounding roads, and neighboring
5 properties.

6 (9) Be overlaid with gridded "x" and "y" coordinates.

7 C. School mapping data shall not be modified or updated independently
8 without corresponding updates to school mapping data within software
9 platforms used by local, parish, state, and federal public safety agencies that
10 provide emergency services to the specific school.

11 D. The provisions of this Section shall be subject to the appropriation of
12 funds by the legislature.

13 E. City, parish, and other local public school systems shall become
14 subject to the requirements of this Section according to the following schedule:

15 (1) All public school buildings and facilities that were constructed within
16 the last five years shall start collecting data beginning with the 2026-2027 school
17 year.

18 (2) All other public schools that have one thousand or more students
19 enrolled shall start collecting data beginning with the 2027-2028 school year.

20 (3) All other public schools that have six hundred to nine hundred
21 ninety-nine students enrolled shall start collecting data beginning with the
22 2028-2029 school year.

23 (4) All other public schools that have three hundred to five hundred
24 ninety-nine students enrolled shall start collecting data beginning with the
25 2029-2030 school year.

26 (5) All other public schools that have under two hundred ninety-nine
27 students enrolled shall start collecting data beginning with the 2030-2031 school
28 year.

29 * * *

1 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

2 * * *

3 B. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and
4 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a
5 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this
6 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be
7 exempt from all statutory mandates or other statutory requirements that are
8 applicable to public schools and to public school officers and employees except for
9 the following laws otherwise applicable to public schools with the same grades:

10 * * *

11 **(89) School mapping data, R.S. 17:416.16.1.**

12 * * *

13 Section 2. This Act shall be known as the "Protect Our Children and Response Act".

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 126 Re-Reengrossed

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Kleinpeter

Proposed law requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Department of Education to coordinate with the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools to provide mapping data of public schools to local law enforcement.

Proposed law requires all school mapping data be collected, produced, and stored within the United States of America.

Proposed law provides guidelines for school mapping data.

Proposed law prohibits modification or update of school mapping data without corresponding updates within the software platforms used by local, parish, state, and federal public safety agencies.

Proposed law provides that the school mapping data of each public school will be subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature.

Proposed law provides that the public school systems will be subject to the requirements of proposed law based off a schedule over a five year period.

Proposed law (R.S. 17:3996(89)) makes proposed law applicable to charter schools.

Proposed law provides that the law will be known as the "Protect Our Children and Response Act".

Effective August 1, 2025.

(Adds R.S. 17:416.16.1 and 3996(B)(89))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

1. Make technical changes.
2. Remove language that states blueprints and school mapping data of public school buildings or facilities are not subject to the Public Records Law.
3. Establish a five year phase in schedule for implementing the provisions of proposed law.

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

1. Provide that implementation of proposed law is subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature for this purpose.

Senate Floor Amendments to reengrossed bill

1. Remove duplicate language that states implementation of proposed law is subject to the appropriation of funds by the legislature.
2. Require BESE and the state Dept. of Education coordinate with the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools to provide mapping data to law enforcement.
3. Make proposed law applicable to charter schools.