HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 384

2025 Regular Session

Bryant

STUDENT/DISCIPLINE: Provides relative to disciplinary penalties for certain public school students

Synopsis of Senate Amendments Reduces minimum number of semesters for which certain students are required to be expelled for being found guilty of being in possession of certain weapons or substances on school property <u>from</u> four <u>to</u> two. Requires each city, parish, and other local public school board to gather and

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

report certain data relative to expulsions to the state Dept. of Education.

<u>Present law</u> provides that a student in grades six through 12 who is found guilty of being in possession of a firearm, a knife with a blade equal to or in excess of two and one-half inches in length, or any illegal narcotic, drug, or other controlled substance on school property shall be expelled from school for a minimum period of four complete school semesters and referred to the district attorney. <u>Proposed law</u> reduces minimum number of semesters for which such a student is required to be expelled from four to two. Further provides that for such students found guilty of possessing marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol, or any chemical derivative thereof, present law penalties only apply after the second or subsequent occurrence.

<u>Present law</u> provides that any student in grades six through 12 found guilty of being in possession of tobacco, alcohol, or vaping product on school property, on a school bus, or at a school-sponsored event may be recommended for expulsion. <u>Proposed law</u> applies <u>present law</u> to students found guilty on the first occurrence of being in possession of marijuana, tetrahydrocannabinol, or any chemical derivative thereof.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires each city, parish, and other local public school board to gather and annually report data relative to expulsions related to certain offenses to the state Dept. of Education, including the number of students who return to a regular school setting after attending an alternative school or having an alternative educational placement during an expulsion.

(Amends R.S. 17:416(C)(2)(a) and (b); Adds R.S. 17:416(O))