

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 467

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDWARDS

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

SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Subjects charter schools to the same State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education rules and regulations as traditional public schools with respect to employment eligibility requirements for teachers and other school employees

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3991(C)(6) and to enact R.S. 17:3996(A)(18), relative to  
3 charter schools; to provide relative to the employment of charter school teachers and  
4 other employees; to require charter schools to employ only teachers and other  
5 employees who meet the employment eligibility requirements provided in State  
6 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education rules and regulations for those  
7 holding equivalent positions in traditional public schools; to provide that all charter  
8 school employees are subject to laws applicable to public school personnel relative  
9 to background checks; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 17:3991(C)(6) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S.  
12 17:3996(A)(18) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

13 §3991. Charter schools; requirements; limitations; renewal; amendment; revocation

14 \* \* \*

15 C. A charter school shall:

16 \* \* \*

17 (6) Employ ~~instructional staff~~ only those teachers and other employees who  
18 ~~have at least a baccalaureate degree~~ meet all eligibility requirements for the  
19 employment of those holding equivalent positions in traditional public schools as

1 provided by law and in rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of  
2 Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with the Administrative  
3 Procedure Act. and who All charter school teachers and other charter school  
4 employees shall be subject to all provisions of state law relative to background  
5 checks applicable to the employment of public school personnel.

6 \* \* \*

7 §3996. Charter schools; exemptions; requirements

8 A. Notwithstanding any state law, rule, or regulation to the contrary and  
9 except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, a  
10 charter school established and operated in accordance with the provisions of this  
11 Chapter and its approved charter and the school's officers and employees shall be  
12 exempt from all rules and regulations of the state board and those of any local school  
13 board that are applicable to public schools and to public school officers and  
14 employees except for the following rules and regulations otherwise applicable to  
15 public schools regarding:

16 \* \* \*

17 (18) Employment eligibility requirements for teachers and other school  
18 employees.

19 \* \* \*

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

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Edwards

HB No. 467

**Abstract:** Subjects charter schools to the same State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education rules and regulations as traditional public schools with respect to employment eligibility requirements for teachers and other school employees.

Present law requires charter schools to employ instructional staff who have at least a baccalaureate degree. Proposed law instead requires charter schools to employ only those teachers and other school employees who meet all eligibility requirements of those holding equivalent positions in traditional public schools as provided by law and in rules and regulations adopted by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE).

Present law subjects charter school instructional staff to all provisions of state law relative to background checks applicable to the employment of public school personnel. Proposed law broadens the application of this requirement to all charter school employees.

Present law, except as may be otherwise specifically provided for in an approved charter, exempts charter schools from all laws, rules, and regulations applicable to public schools and provides an enumerated list of excepted rules and regulations from which charter schools are not exempt. Proposed law adds employment eligibility requirements for teachers and other school employees to this list of rules and regulations.

(Amends R.S. 17:3991(C)(6); Adds R.S. 17:3996(A)(18))