
DIGEST

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Nancy Landry

HB No. 593

Abstract: Authorizes legislation to provide for preparation and adoption of a plan for the structure and organization of governance of the Lafayette Parish school system subject to voter approval, including exceptions from certain constitutional provisions.

Present constitution requires the legislature to create parish school boards and provide for the election of their members. Requires each parish board to elect a superintendent of parish schools. Provides for the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to establish the qualifications and duties of the parish superintendent. Specifies that the superintendent is not required to be a resident of the parish.

Proposed constitutional amendment authorizes legislation to provide for the preparation and adoption of a plan for the structure and organization of governance of the public school system in Lafayette Parish and for changes in such plan. Provides that the plan is not subject to present constitution described above or other constitutional provisions that would restrict or limit the structure and organization of school system governance or implementation of the plan. Requires approval of a majority of the electors of the parish voting on the proposition(s) for the plan to become effective. Provides that if the plan is approved, the school system governing authority shall be considered a school board for purposes of other constitutional provisions. Authorizes legislation to implement proposed constitutional amendment and to make changes in law in conformity with the adopted plan of governance, including but not limited to local laws for the management of the school system.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Adds Const. Art. VIII, §9(C))