

Teacher's Bill of Rights

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Contact: David M. Grubb, (225) 342-3600, Fax: (225) 342-0193, Melissa Sellers (225) 342-8006

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ISSUES STATEMENT REGARDING SIGNING OF "TEACHERS' BILL OF RIGHTS"

BATON ROUGE, La. - State Superintendent Paul G. Pastorek, "The Department of Education is proud to stand alongside our teachers and applaud the signing of House Bill 672, and officially recognize the 'Teachers' Bill of Rights.' We know how important establishing and maintaining an environment that promotes learning is to the education of every child. Every educator should feel safe and supported in the classroom. We applaud the legislature for bringing this issue forward and the Governor for his continued support of educators and education. Before we can build a world-class education system for all children, we must put our teachers in the best position to do so."

Independent studies have recently cited the state of Louisiana as 39th out of 40 states in lacking classroom discipline. Many surveys of Louisiana's teachers have also indicated that lack of discipline in our schools is one of the primary reasons for teacher attrition.

"Too many of our Louisiana teachers are leaving the classroom only a few years after they enter the teaching profession because of the lack of discipline in the classroom," added Governor Bobby Jindal. "We have to give our teachers the tools they need to effectively manage their classrooms and ensure a safe and productive learning environment for students. The Teachers' Bill of Rights is a fundamental part of making sure all parents and students know a teacher's rights to manage his or her own classroom, and it ensures that Louisiana teachers have the support they need from parents to help our children get the great education they deserve."

By signing this legislation into law, "The Teachers' Bill of Rights" is required to be prominently displayed in all classroom buildings, posted on school and school board websites, and sent home to parents or legal guardians of all students.

Superintendent Pastorek stated, "To maintain that partnership between our schools, our parents and our communities, we need to make sure everyone is aware of these provisions and that they are understood. We believe today's action will strengthen that partnership and be an additional building block as we transform education for families in Louisiana."