Recommendations from House Education and Senate Education Committee Staff

General things to consider with regard to the recommended revisions to R.S. 17:416:

* The key to drafting useable, workable legislation is to make it clear, concise, and technically sound
* In order to do that, you must first determine the main purpose or objective of the legislation -- in many instances it is less complicated and more clear to simply repeal a section of law and create all new law than to make various changes and additions throughout the section
* This may be easier to accomplish by separating the technical changes from the substantive changes
* Be consistent with use of terms throughout (i.e. definitions (alphabetical order), references to law - both internally within section 416 and outside of that section -- including use of "Subsection", "Section", "Paragraph", etc.)

Other notes specific to the language in the recommended revisions:

* Preambles are not typically used in the La. Revised Statutes (mainly used in the state constitution)
* The state constitution recognizes "school boards", "school systems", and "school districts" and not "local education agencies" -- if the purpose is to include charter schools, the preferred terminology is "the governing authority of each public school" -- this can also be accomplished by simply amending the charter school law (R.S. 17:3996(B)) to add R.S. 17:416
* References to "this statute" must be to the specific unit/subunit of law (i.e., "this Section", "this Subsection", "this Paragraph", etc.)
* **Consider making recommendations "in concept" (this would comply with Section 2 of Act 600 since it simply requires a review of state law and not a rewrite) -- then if a legislator agrees to introduce legislation to change the law to incorporate those recommendations, legislative staff can draft the legislation**