

May 17, 2001  
**OPINION NO. 01-157**

**41 - ELECTIONS - REAPPORTIONMENT  
94 - SCHOOL AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS - ADMINISTRATION,  
GOVERNMENT AND OFFICERS**

The Honorable Gil Pinac  
State Representative, District 42  
P. O. Box 495  
Crowley, LA 70527-0495

**LSA-R.S. 17:71.2**

Attorney General Opinion No. 91-586 still represents the opinion of this office. Therefore, the Acadia Parish School Board may reduce the number of school board members by a vote of the people if the size of the school board is to be changed by reapportionment.

Dear Representative Pinac:

I am in receipt of your request for an Attorney General's opinion concerning the number of board members on the Acadia Parish School Board. Specifically, you request an opinion concerning the following question:

Is there a way to reduce the number of school board members by a vote of the people?

LSA-R.S. 17:71.2 concerns the maximum and minimum size of parish school boards. It provides in pertinent part:

A. In accomplishing the reapportionment authorized by this Subpart, each of said school boards may, by majority vote of said board as presently constituted, reestablish itself with not less than five nor more than fifteen members or the number presently authorized for that school board, whichever is the greater. Whenever the size of a school board is to be changed by reapportionment, the school board may submit the proposition of size to the people. (Emphasis added).

In Attorney General Opinion 91-586, our office addressed the issue of whether the Tangipahoa Parish School Board may reapportion itself by submitting the proposition of size to the electorate for a vote. Our office cited LSA-R.S. 17:71.2 and noted that this section states: ". . . whenever the size of a school board is to be changed by reapportionment, the school board may submit the proposition of size to the people." Our office opined that the Tangipahoa Parish School Board may submit a proposition to the people regarding the size when the school board is to be changed by reapportionment.

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I hope this opinion sufficiently addresses your concerns. If I can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Very truly yours,

**RICHARD P. IEYOUB  
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
**BETH CONRAD ROBINSON  
ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL**

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**DATE RECEIVED: 4/16/01BR    DATE RECEIVED: 4/16/01SH**  
**Date Released: 05/17/01**

**BETH CONRAD ROBINSON**  
**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL**