
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)]

HB 144 Original

2018 Regular Session

Abraham

Abstract: Creates the La. Jobs Now Fund and provides for deposits and uses of the fund.

Proposed law creates the La. Jobs Now Fund (the fund) for the purpose of funding degree and certificate production in high-demand fields through programs offered by La.'s public postsecondary education institutions to meet the state's current and future workforce needs.

Proposed law requires monies in the fund to be appropriated to the postsecondary education management boards to be distributed to and used by postsecondary education institutions towards degree production at public four-year universities in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) programs and towards degree and certificate production at public two-year, community, and technical colleges in fields required for four-star or five-star jobs, as defined by the La. Workforce Commission's La. Star Jobs program or its successors. However, prior to distribution of the funds, proposed law requires certification by the receiving institution that a match of no less than 25% of the funding is guaranteed by a private entity.

Proposed law provides for the methodology for distribution of funds as follows:

- (1) 50% to public four-year universities based on each institution's prior year degree production in STEM programs.
- (2) 50% to public two-year, community, and technical colleges based on each institution's prior year degree and certificate production in fields required for four-star or five-star jobs.

Proposed law requires the Board of Regents to provide annual reporting to certain legislative committees. Proposed law further provides for the report to contain information such as final distribution amounts and the number of jobs created.

Proposed law prohibits monies from the fund supplanting any state general fund allocations provided to institutions.

Effective July 1, 2018.

(Adds R.S. 17:3138.7)