

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 909

BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

HIGHER EDUCATION: Subjects certain actions of the Board of Regents and public postsecondary education management boards relative to environmental, social, and governance criteria to the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:1803, relative to higher education; to provide that actions of the Board of
3 Regents and public postsecondary education management boards relative to
4 environmental, social, and governance criteria are subject to the approval of the Joint
5 Legislative Committee on the Budget; to require these boards to request such
6 approval annually and to provide for the content of the requests; and to provide for
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Higher Education
10 Financial and Planning Transparency Act".

11 Section 2. R.S. 17:1803 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §1803. Environmental, social, and governance criteria; postsecondary education;
13 legislative approval

14 A. Neither the Board of Regents nor any public postsecondary education
15 management board shall continue or commence any activities related to
16 environmental, social, and governance criteria unless it receives the approval of the
17 Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

18 B. Prior to December thirty-first annually, the Board of Regents and each
19 public postsecondary education management board shall submit a request to the Joint

1 Legislative Committee on the Budget for approval to continue or commence any
2 activities subject to any environmental, social, and governance criteria. Each request
3 shall include the following:

4 (1) Detailed information on the nature of any such reporting and the validity
5 and financial efficacy of items scored and reported.

6 (2) A defense of the use of such criteria in the context of fiduciary
7 responsibilities as stewards of state resources.

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 909 Original

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Abstract: Provides that actions of the Bd. of Regents and public postsecondary management boards related to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) criteria are subject to the approval of the Jt. Legislative Committee on the Budget.

Proposed law:

- (1) Prohibits the Bd. of Regents and each public postsecondary education management board from continuing or commencing any activities related to ESG criteria unless it receives the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.
- (2) Requires each board, prior to Dec. 31st annually, to submit a request to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget for approval to continue or commence such activities.

(Adds R.S. 17:1803)