

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 484

BY SENATOR ABRAHAM

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES. Transfers certain duties from the Board of Regents to the management boards of public colleges and universities and Louisiana Works. (8/1/26).

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:2048.51(A), (E), (F), (G)(1)(a)(i), (J), the introductory  
3 paragraph of 2018.51(O)(1), (2), and (3)(c), 3128.1(A), (B), (C), 3129.4(A), (B),  
4 (C)(2), 3138(A), (B), and (E), and 3138.4(A)(1), (B), the introductory paragraph of  
5 (C)(1) and (1)(a), and (b), and (3), 3138.5 (B)(1), (D)(1), (2), and the introductory  
6 paragraph of (D)(4) and (4)(f), and (5), (E) and (F), 3189.9(A)(3) and (5), (B)(1) and  
7 (C), and 3452 and 3454(A), R.S. 39:128(B)(1) and (4)(a)(i), and R.S. 42:375.2(A),  
8 the introductory paragraph of (B) and (B)(1), (C), and (D)(3) and to enact R.S.  
9 17:3128.1(D), 3129.4(D), 3138(G), 3138.4(D), R.S. 36:309(E)(3) and (4), and R.S.  
10 42:375.2(D)(4) and to repeal R.S. 36:651(F)(6) and (L)(1)(a), relative to higher  
11 education and the duties of the Board of Regents; to transfer of certain powers duties  
12 and functions from the Board of Regents to other agencies; to provide with respect  
13 to the Louisiana Health Works Commission; to provide with respect to incubator  
14 facilities on postsecondary campuses; to provide with respect to the Louisiana  
15 Education Tuition and Savings Plan and Fund; to provide with respect to the state  
16 common admission application for postsecondary institutions; to provide with  
17 respect to Hunger-Free campus designations; to provide with respect to Purple Star

1 Campus designations; provides with respect to the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative  
 2 Fund and the Cybersecurity Education Management Council; provides with respect  
 3 to the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium; to provide with respect to agency  
 4 attrition analysis; to provide with respect to the minor repairs, renovation, or  
 5 construction of facilities undertaken on higher education campuses; and to provide  
 6 for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:2048.51(A), (E), (F), (G)(1)(a)(i), (J), the introductory paragraph  
 9 of 2048.51(O)(1), (2), and (3)(c), 3128.1(A), (B), (C), 3129.4(A), (B), (C)(2), 3138(A), (B),  
 10 and (E), and 3138.4(A)(1), (B), the introductory paragraph of (C)(1) and (1)(a), and (b), and  
 11 (3), 3138.5 (B)(1), (D)(1), (2), and the introductory paragraph of (D)(4) and (4)(f), and (5),  
 12 (E) and (F), and R.S. 42:375.2(A), the introductory paragraph of (B) and (B)(1), (C), and  
 13 (D)(3), 3189.9(A)(3) and (5), (B)(1) and (C), and 3452 and 3454(A) are hereby amended and  
 14 reenacted and R.S. 17:3128.1(D), 3129.4(D), 3138(G), 3138.4(D) are enacted to read as  
 15 follows:

16 §2048.51. Louisiana Health Works Commission; creation; membership;  
 17 compensation; staff and facilities; powers and duties; data collection  
 18 and reporting

19 A. There is hereby created in ~~the Department of Education~~ **Louisiana**  
 20 **Works, and** under the jurisdiction of ~~the Board of Regents thereof~~, the Louisiana  
 21 Health Works Commission, hereafter referred to as the "commission."

22 \* \* \*

23 E. ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Louisiana Works** shall provide the staff and  
 24 facilities needed by the commission to accomplish its tasks.

25 F. Each group, organization, and agency shall submit the names of members  
 26 to ~~the Board of Regents~~ **Louisiana Works**.

27 G. The Louisiana Health Works Commission shall have the following  
 28 committees:

29 (1)(a) An executive committee composed of the following:

1 (i) The ~~commissioner of higher education~~ **secretary of Louisiana Works** or  
2 his designee for the commission.

3 \* \* \*

4 J. The commission shall address the workforce issues in the health care  
5 industry in Louisiana, support the education of future health care workers, and work  
6 to improve the image of health care professions in Louisiana. The commission shall  
7 periodically report to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, ~~and the Senate~~  
8 **Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations**, the House Committee on Health  
9 and Welfare, ~~and the Senate Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations~~ all  
10 accomplishments and recommendations of the commission including an annual  
11 report to both committees. The commission shall submit its annual report to such  
12 committees by February first of each year.

13 \* \* \*

14 O.(1) ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Louisiana Works**, the Health Works  
15 Commission, the division of administration, or any contractor working on behalf of  
16 these entities shall be authorized to request and receive licensing data, education  
17 data, and employment data, including unemployment wage records and other related  
18 health workforce data produced by state agencies, including Louisiana Works,  
19 Louisiana Economic Development, the state Department of Education, and the  
20 Louisiana Department of Health, obtained pursuant to the administration of this  
21 Chapter for any of the expressly stated following purposes:

22 \* \* \*

23 (2) All data shall be submitted in a standardized format agreed upon by ~~the~~  
24 ~~Board of Regents~~ **Louisiana Works**, the Health Works Commission, and  
25 representatives of the affected state boards and agencies.

26 (3) Any individual data provided pursuant to this Subsection shall be  
27 confidential. No public employee, commission member, or contractor acting on  
28 behalf of a state agency or employee of such a contractor may:

29 \* \* \*

1 (c) Retain any personal data as provided in this Subsection that is received  
2 by ~~the Board of Regents~~ **Louisiana Works** and the commission or any contractor  
3 acting on behalf of the commission. Any personal data must be destroyed within  
4 thirty days of completion of its intended purpose as described in this Subsection.

5 \* \* \*

6 §3128.1. Power to survey, evaluate, and implement incubator facilities on state  
7 college and university campuses

8 A. ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Each management board of each public**  
9 **postsecondary education system** shall conduct a survey of state colleges and  
10 universities for the purpose of establishing incubator facilities as defined in R.S.  
11 51:1122(4) on qualified campuses. In order to complete such study, ~~the~~ **each**  
12 **management** board shall establish criteria for evaluation of institutions which shall  
13 include, but not be limited to the following information:

14 \* \* \*

15 B. ~~The~~ **Each management** board shall use the criteria established pursuant  
16 to Subsection A in order to evaluate the potential for incubator facilities on campuses  
17 and recommend such facilities on qualified campuses.

18 C. ~~The~~ **Each management** board shall report criteria established, data  
19 developed, and other relevant information and shall make recommendations for  
20 implementation of incubator facilities to the governor, the speaker of the House of  
21 Representatives, the president of the Senate, the chairmen of the House Committee  
22 on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, the chairman of the Small  
23 Business Development Corporation, and the secretary of Louisiana Economic  
24 Development pursuant to its study no later than January 1, 1987.

25 **D. For purposes of this Section, "management board" means a**  
26 **governing board of a public postsecondary education institution that is**  
27 **responsible for supervising the day-to-day operations of each institution. Article**  
28 **VIII of the Constitution of Louisiana provides that the management boards are**  
29 **the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and**



\* \* \*

§3138. Louisiana common application; development; implementation

A.(1)(a) ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Each management board of each public postsecondary education system**, in collaboration with the **each** public postsecondary ~~education management boards~~ **institution**, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education or his designee, and the chairman of the House Committee on Education or his designee, shall provide for the development and implementation of a common application whereby Louisiana residents and nonresidents may apply to any public college and university in the ~~state~~ **system**. Except as provided in R.S. 17:3152, such application shall not include questions pertaining to an applicant's criminal history.

(b) When developing the implementation plan for the common application, consideration shall be given to best practices for successful implementation, implementation costs, development and maintenance of a website to facilitate the common application process, and the duties and responsibilities of ~~the Board of Regents~~ and the postsecondary education systems and institutions.

(2) Regionally accredited independent colleges and universities that are members of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities may also utilize ~~the a~~ Louisiana common application **developed by any management board of a public postsecondary education system**.

B. Each public college and university shall accept the Louisiana common application **developed by its management board**, which a student may complete one time and submit to as many institutions as he wishes to apply. Applications may be submitted electronically or in a paper format, as specified by the individual postsecondary institution.

\* \* \*

E. The Louisiana common application shall be **developed by each management board and be** fully implemented and available to students applying for admission for the ~~2016-2017~~ **2026-2027** academic year.

1 \* \* \*

2 G. For purposes of this Section, "management board" shall have the  
3 same meaning as R.S. 17:3128.1.

4 \* \* \*

5 §3138.4. Hunger-Free Campus; designation; grant program

6 A.(1) ~~The Board of Regents~~ Each management board of each public  
7 postsecondary education system, referred to in this Section as the "board", shall  
8 establish a process for a postsecondary education institution to be designated as a  
9 "Hunger-Free Campus".

10 \* \* \*

11 B.(1) The management board shall develop an application process for  
12 institutions seeking this designation.

13 (2) The management board shall review each application and award the  
14 initial designation to institutions meeting the requirements provided in Subsection  
15 A of this Section.

16 (3) The designation shall apply to a public postsecondary education  
17 institution for two years.

18 (4) After receiving the initial designation, an institution may submit a  
19 renewal application to the management board in accordance with timelines  
20 established by the management board.

21 (5) If the management board determines that the institution meets the  
22 requirements specified in Subsection A of this Section based on its renewal  
23 application, the institution shall receive the designation for an additional two-year  
24 period. If the management board determines that an institution does not meet the  
25 requirements, the management board shall provide written notice to the institution,  
26 and the institution shall have forty-five days from receipt of the notice to correct or  
27 amend its renewal application. If the institution does not submit a corrected or  
28 amended application or if the corrected or amended application does not meet the  
29 requirements as determined by the management board, the institution shall not

1 receive the designation for that year.

2 C.(1) The **management** board shall establish a Hunger-Free Campus grant  
3 program. The purpose of the program shall be to provide grants to the following:

4 (a) Public postsecondary education institutions **that are** designated as  
5 "Hunger-Free Campuses".

6 (b) Nonpublic, not-for-profit postsecondary education institutions that  
7 disproportionately serve low-income students **may apply to a management board,**  
8 **based upon criteria that is** as determined by the **management** board, and ~~that have~~  
9 ~~been~~ designated as "Hunger-Free Campuses".

10 \* \* \*

11 (3) ~~The~~ **Each management** board shall create an application process for  
12 postsecondary institutions **within the system that are** seeking grant funding.

13 \* \* \*

14 **D. For purposes of this Section, "management board" shall have the**  
15 **same meaning as R.S. 17:3128.1.**

16 §3138.5. Purple Star Campus; designation; process; eligibility; applications

17 \* \* \*

18 ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Each management board of each public**  
19 **postsecondary education system** shall establish a process for a postsecondary  
20 education institution **within the system** to be designated as a "Purple Star Campus".

21 \* \* \*

22 ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Each management board** shall develop an  
23 application process, including time lines for submitting applications, for institutions  
24 **within the system** that are interested in receiving the designation specified in  
25 Paragraph (B)(1) of this Section.

26 (2) ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Each management board** shall review each  
27 application and shall submit such applications to the governor along with a written  
28 report that indicates if an institution meets the requirements specified in Subsections  
29 B and C of this Section to receive the initial designation by the governor.

\* \* \*

(4) After receiving the initial designation by the governor and in accordance with timelines established by the managment board, an institution shall submit a renewal application to the ~~Board of Regents~~ **institution's management board** prior to the expiration of a designation and an interim report in each year it is not submitting a renewal application. Each renewal application and interim report shall include, at a minimum, all of the following information from the previous year as it relates to veterans:

\* \* \*

(f) Other military friendly information identified by the ~~Board of Regents~~ **management board**.

(5) If the ~~Board of Regents~~ **management board** determines that the institution meets the requirements specified in Subsections B and C of this Section based on its renewal application, the institution shall receive the designation for that year. If the ~~Board of Regents~~ **management board** determines that an institution does not meet the specified requirements, the management board shall provide written notice to the institution and the institution shall have forty-five days from receipt of the notice to correct or amend its renewal application. If the institution does not submit a corrected or amended application or if the corrected or amended application does not meet the requirements as determined by the management board, the institution shall not receive the designation for that year.

E. ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Each management board of each public postsecondary education system** may establish additional tiers of distinction for the purpose of recognizing higher levels of excellence demonstrated by institutions that have received the designation provided for in this Section. If the management board establishes additional tiers, it shall provide for the criteria for each tier and the associated application process.

F. For purposes of this Section, **the following terms shall have the following meanings:**



1 amounts, the number of jobs created as a result of the distribution, and the method  
2 and data used to determine the reported number of jobs created. Each public  
3 postsecondary education management board shall report to ~~the Board of Regents~~  
4 **Louisiana Works** the information necessary for ~~the Board of Regents~~ **Louisiana**  
5 **Works** to satisfy the requirements of this Subsection.

6 \* \* \*

7 §3452. Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium for Research and Education;  
8 creation; membership

9 **A.** The Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium for Research and  
10 Education, referred to hereinafter as the consortium, is hereby created as a body  
11 corporate under the authority of the ~~Board of Regents~~ **Board of Supervisors of**  
12 **Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College**, hereafter  
13 to be referred to as the board in this Chapter.

14 **B. The board shall partner with other public postsecondary institutions**  
15 **and other private colleges and universities for research and education purposes,**  
16 **subject to cooperative endeavor agreements.**

17 \* \* \*

18 §3454. Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium for Research and Education;  
19 governance, funding

20 A. The Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium for Research and  
21 Education shall be subject to the governance of the ~~Board of Regents~~ **Board of**  
22 **Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical**  
23 **College**. The board shall serve as fiscal agent for the consortium and shall review  
24 and approve the consortium's budgetary request and operating budget and shall  
25 review and approve all funds appropriately awarded or bequeathed to the consortium.  
26 All funds appropriated to the consortium shall be appropriated as a separate line item  
27 within the appropriation of the ~~Board of Regents~~ **Board of Supervisors of**  
28 **Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College**.

29 \* \* \*

1 Section 2. R. S. 36:309(E)(3) and(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

2 §309. Transfer of agencies to Louisiana Works

3 \* \* \*

4 E. The following agencies are transferred to and hereafter shall be within  
5 Louisiana Works and shall perform and exercise their powers, duties, functions, and  
6 responsibilities as provided by law:

7 \* \* \*

8 **(3) The Louisiana Health Works Commission.**

9 **(4) The Cybersecurity Education Management Council.**

10 \* \* \*

11 Section 3. R.S. 39:128(B)(1) and (4)(a)(i) are hereby amended and reenacted to read  
12 as follows:

13 §128. Exemptions

14 \* \* \*

15 B.(1) Minor repairs, renovation, or construction of buildings or other  
16 facilities or the purchase of land, buildings, or other facilities when the construction  
17 cost or purchase price is less than or equal to one million dollars, adjusted annually  
18 in accordance with the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics consumer price index  
19 for all urban consumers as published in January of each year, may be undertaken by  
20 or on the campus of a state college, university, higher education facility, or  
21 consortium without being included in the capital outlay budget but shall be subject  
22 to the approval of ~~the Board of Regents~~ and the appropriate **postsecondary**  
23 management board, or any successor. A state college, university, higher education  
24 facility, or consortium may not incur debt to fund any project that is not included in  
25 the capital outlay budget other than a short-term loan not to exceed one year for the  
26 purposes included in this Paragraph. Any short-term loan shall be issued in  
27 accordance with the provisions of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,  
28 and shall not constitute or create any debt, liability, or loan of the credit of or a  
29 pledge of the full faith and credit of the state but shall be solely the obligation of the

1 ~~appropriate governing board~~ or postsecondary education management board, or any  
2 successor.

3 \* \* \*

4 (4)(a)(i) A university, higher education facility, or consortium shall be  
5 allowed to undertake any new construction, maintenance, or repair project not  
6 exceeding ten million dollars solely funded from self-generated revenues, grants,  
7 donations, or local or federal funds without being included in the Capital Outlay Bill,  
8 provided that the project is approved by the appropriate governing board or  
9 **postsecondary** management board; ~~the Board of Regents~~; the division of  
10 administration, office of facility planning and control; and the Joint Legislative  
11 Committee on the Budget. The office of facility planning and control shall issue the  
12 necessary contracts for the project and shall disburse funds to pay the costs of the  
13 project. The university, higher education facility, or consortium shall remit project  
14 funding to the office of facility planning and control for deposit in the state treasury  
15 at such time as may be deemed necessary by the office of facility planning and  
16 control in order to cover the amount of contracts or other project expenses. Any  
17 surplus of the project funding and any interest earned on the funds shall be refunded  
18 to the university, higher education facility, or consortium by the state treasurer.

19 Section 4. R.S. 42:375.2(A), the introductory paragraph of (B) and (B)(1), (C), and  
20 (D)(3) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 42:375.2(D)(4) is hereby enacted to read  
21 as follows:

22 §375.2. Agency attrition analysis process, higher education systems

23 A. ~~The Board of Regents~~ **Each management board of each public**  
24 **postsecondary education system** shall establish and implement an agency attrition  
25 analysis process to be used by each **institution under each** higher education system  
26 to review the historical employee vacancies, relative to authorized table of  
27 organization full and part-time positions funded in whole or in part by the state  
28 general fund, within each agency with a goal to reduce by five percent annually for  
29 three years by an equally proportionate reduction of such positions across all salary

1 ranges of equal increments, beginning Fiscal Year ~~2010-2011~~ **2026-2027**, the  
2 number of such positions in each higher education system.

3 B. In implementing the requirements of Subsection A of this Section, ~~the~~  
4 ~~Board of Regents~~ **each management board** shall establish a process which requires  
5 the analysis of the following:

6 (1) General staffing needs of each ~~higher education system~~ **public**  
7 **postsecondary education institution.**

8 \* \* \*

9 C. On the first day of the month following the month in which the executive  
10 budget is submitted to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, ~~the Board of~~  
11 ~~Regents~~ **each management board** shall provide a written report to the ~~Commission~~  
12 ~~on Streamlining Government~~ **Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget**  
13 indicating the state general fund dollar savings achieved as a result of the  
14 implementation of the agency attrition analysis process and the number of vacant  
15 positions eliminated and any other information relating to personnel numbers, costs,  
16 and historical vacancies.

17 D. For the purposes of this Section, the following terms shall have the  
18 following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

19 \* \* \*

20 **(3) "Management board" shall have the same meaning as R.S. 17:3128.1.**

21 ~~(3)(4)~~ "Vacant position" means any authorized table of organization full or  
22 part-time position of employment for which a budget has been approved and an  
23 appropriation has been made or a transfer of funds effected pursuant to law which  
24 is funded in whole or in part by the state general fund, but which is not filled.

25 Section 5. R.S. 36:651(F)(6) and (L)(1)(a) are hereby repealed.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

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## DIGEST

SB 484 Original

2026 Regular Session

Abraham

Present law provides that the La. Health Works Commission serves as a statewide coordinating body for healthcare workforce development. Present law provides that its primary purpose is to bring together key state agencies, education systems, and healthcare organizations to integrate and align resources, policies, and strategies that address La.'s healthcare workforce needs. The commission focuses on analyzing workforce supply and demand, recruiting and retaining healthcare professionals (especially in under served areas), improving education and training capacity, and enhancing the public image of healthcare careers. Present law provides that the commission studies workforce and education challenges, develops recommendations, and reports annually to the legislature, while using data collection and analysis to support long-term planning and ensure an adequate, well-trained healthcare workforce across the state. Present law provides that the La. Board of Regents ("Bd. of Regents") is responsible for providing staff and facilities necessary for the commission to operate, receiving member nominations from participating entities, and supporting the commission's organizational structure.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the administrative and staffing functions of the La. Health Works Commission from the Bd. of Regents to Louisiana Works.

Present law provides that the Bd. of Regents is responsible for evaluating and promoting the development of business incubator facilities on public college and university campuses. Present law requires the Bd. of Regents to establish evaluation criteria-including institutional resources such as technology, personnel, student capacity, and research infrastructure-then survey and assess campuses to determine their suitability for incubator programs. Present law provides that, based on the analysis, the Bd. of Regents identifies and recommends qualified campuses for incubator implementation and reports its findings and recommendations to the legislature and the Dept. of Economic Development.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the duties related to evaluating and promoting the development of business incubator facilities on public college and university campuses from the Bd. of Regents to the management boards of the public colleges and universities.

Proposed law defines "management board" means a governing board that is provided for in present law and is responsible for supervising the day-to-day operations of colleges and universities under its jurisdiction. Present law (La. Constitution, Article VIII) list the management boards as follows:

- (1) Bd. of Supervisors of Louisiana State University.
- (2) Bd. of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System.
- (3) Bd. of Supervisors of Southern University.
- (4) Bd. of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges.

Present law provides that the La. Education Tuition and Savings Plan and Fund (START) is a state-sponsored college savings program that enables families to invest funds for a beneficiary's future qualified education expenses, including tuition, fees, and related costs at colleges and universities. Present law further provides that START is designed to encourage early financial planning for education, offering tax advantages and potential state

earnings enhancements based on eligibility, while allowing account owners to retain control over contributions and distributions as they save for their children's college education or save for the benefit of another who will attend college or university. Present law provides that they SMART fund is managed by the Bd. of Regents that establishes program rules and policies, oversees investment and financial operations, ensures compliance with applicable state and federal laws, and safeguards the fiscal integrity of the fund. The Bd. also works to promote participation in the program, manage contracts and service providers, and ensure that funds are used appropriately for qualified education expenses.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the administrative and management functions of the START program from the Bd. of Regents to the management boards of the public colleges and universities.

Present law provides for the La. common application to be used by applicants applying for admissions to La. public college and universities to be developed by the Bd. of Regents. Present law further provides that individual colleges and universities are to use the La. common application but may require the applicant to submit supplemental materials. Present law also provides that the colleges and universities may also use the national "common application" that is developed and administered by the not-for-profit membership organization.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the development functions of the state common application from the Bd. of Regents to the management boards of the public colleges and universities.

Present law provides for colleges and universities to receive a designation and apply for grants under the Hunger-Free Campus program from the Bd of Regents. Present law provides that colleges and universities may apply for the designation by demonstrating that they meet specified criteria, such as establishing or maintaining a campus food pantry or meal assistance program, providing information to students about available nutrition resources (including federal programs), and implementing initiatives to raise awareness of food insecurity. Present law provides that schools that receive the designation may also be eligible for state grant funding to help expand or sustain these efforts, with funds used for purposes such as developing food access programs, conducting outreach, and improving coordination with community resources.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the administration of the Hunger-Free Campus program from the Bd. of Regents to the management boards of the public colleges and universities.

Present law provides that a public college or university may receive a Purple Star Campus designation by applying to the La. Board of Regents and demonstrating that it meets established criteria designed to support military-connected students. Present law provides that, in order to qualify, a college or university must implement specific initiatives such as designating a staff member to serve as a point of contact for military families, providing accessible information on admissions, financial aid, and support services for veterans and dependents, and adopting policies or programs that facilitate academic transitions and promote campus awareness of military-related issues. The Bd. of Regents reviews applications and awards the designation to colleges and universities that satisfy the requirements by showing a commitment to serve the unique needs of military-affiliated students.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the administration of the Purple Star Campus program from the Bd. of Regents to the management boards of the public colleges and universities.

Present law provides that state college and university facilities, or consortia thereof, may undertake minor repairs, renovations, or property purchases under \$1 million (adjusted

annually for inflation) and larger self-funded projects up to \$10 million without including them in the capital outlay budget, provided they receive approval from the Bd. of Regents, the appropriate management board, and, for larger projects, the division of administration and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. Minor projects may use short-term loans up to one year, while larger projects must be funded through self-generated revenues, grants, donations, or through local or federal funds, with funds managed and disbursed by the Office of Facility Planning and Control, and any surplus or interest refunded to the college or university.

Proposed law retains present law that requires colleges and universities to continue to obtain approval on construction projects from their applicable management board but removes the requirement that the college also obtain approval of from the Bd. of Regents.

Present law creates the La. Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund as a special treasury fund to support and expand cybersecurity degree and certificate programs at public colleges and universities to meet workforce needs. Present law provides that the fund consists of legislative appropriations and donations, retains interest earnings, and carries forward unexpended balances. Present law further provides that monies are appropriated to the Bd. of Regents for distribution to institutions, subject to a requirement that each receiving college or university secures at least a 25% private match, which may include cash or in-kind contributions. Present law also provides that the fund allocations are supplemental and may not supplant existing state or federal funding or be included in the Bd. of Regents' funding formula. Present law also establishes the Cybersecurity Education Management Council to advise the Bd. of Regents on distributions, with specified membership, duties, and meeting requirements. Present law also requires the Bd. of Regents to annually report to the legislature on fund distributions, supported programs, and workforce outcomes, including job creation data.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the administrative and staffing functions of the La. Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund and the Cybersecurity Education Management Council from the Bd. of Regents to Louisiana Works.

Present law provides for the La. Universities Marine Consortium for research and education, under the authority and governance of the Bd. of Regents, which serves as its fiscal agent and oversees its budget, funding, and operations. Present law provides that the Bd. of Regents is granted broad powers to manage and supervise the consortium, including the authority to receive and administer public and private funds, set fees, acquire and maintain property and facilities, hire personnel, establish academic programs, adopt rules, and enter into contracts and cooperative agreements with public and private entities for research and education purposes. Present law provides for funding through separate legislative appropriations, allows the consortium to engage in joint projects and partnerships, and specifies that liability for consortium activities rests with the consortium as represented by the Board of Regents.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the administrative and staffing functions of the La. Universities Marine Consortium from the Bd. of Regents to the management board of Bd. of Louisiana State University.

Present law provides that the Bd. of Regents establishes an agency attrition analysis process specifically for higher education systems. Present law requires the Bd. of Regents to perform a systematic review of the history of employee vacancies in positions funded fully or partially by the state general fund and to guide a goal of reducing such positions by five percent annually for three years, with reductions applied proportionally across all salary ranges. Present law requires the Bd. of Regents to develop and implement the process for each higher education system, including analyzing general staffing needs, the cost of filling vacant positions, and other relevant factors to decide whether to retain or eliminate positions. The Bd. of Regents is also tasked with reporting to the Commission on Streamlining Government on the results of the process, including state general fund savings, positions

eliminated, and personnel-related data, thereby providing oversight, ensuring compliance, and supporting fiscal accountability across higher education systems.

Proposed law retains present law and transfers the agency attrition and analysis from the Bd. of Regents to the management boards of the public colleges and universities. Proposed law further removes the reference to the Commission on Streamlining Government because the commission was terminated on January 12, 2023 under present law (R.S. 24:101-109).

(Amends R.S. 17:2048.51(A), (E), (F), (G)(1)(a)(i), (J), 2048.51(O)(1)(intro para), (2), and (3)(c), 3128.1(A), (B), (C), 3129.4(A), (B), (C)(2), 3138(A), (B), and (E), and 3138.4(A)(1), (B), (C)(1)(intro para) and (1)(a), and (b), and (3), 3138.5 (B)(1), (D)(1), (2), (D)(4)(intro para) and (4)(f), and (5), (E) and (F), 3189.9(A)(3) and (5), (B)(1) and (C), and 3452 and 3454(A), R.S. 39:128(B)(1) and (4)(a)(i), and R.S. 42:375.2(A), (B)(intro para) and (B)(1), (C), and (D)(3); adds R.S. 17:3128.1(D), 3129.4(D), 3138(G), 3138.4(D), R.S. 36:309(E)(3) and(4), and R.S. 42:375.2(D)(4); repeals R.S. 36:651(F)(6) and(L)(1)(a))