

Regular Session, 2005

ACT No. 506

HOUSE BILL NO. 505

BY REPRESENTATIVES JACK SMITH, HUTTER, DOERGE, HEBERT, AND THOMPSON AND SENATORS ADLEY, BOASSO, CAIN, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CRAVINS, DUPLESSIS, DUPRE, ELLINGTON, FONTENOT, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, HINES, HOLLIS, JONES, KOSTELKA, MALONE, MARIONNEAUX, MCPHERSON, MURRAY, NEVERS, ROMERO, SHEPHERD, SMITH, AND ULLO

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3217.1(A)(8) and (9) and to enact R.S. 17:3217.1(A)(10) and (11) and (C), relative to higher education; to provide relative to the planning for and organization of a certain postsecondary education system; to provide relative to budget requests for certain postsecondary education agencies; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3217.1(A)(8) and (9) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3217.1(A)(10) and (11) and (C) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3217.1. Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges system; assignment of institution

A. The Louisiana Community and Technical College System is composed of the institutions under the supervision and management of the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges as follows:

* * *

(8) Sowela Technical Community College.

(9) L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College.

1 (10) All public postsecondary technical colleges which provide vocational-
2 technical education.

3 (11) Any other community college, technical college, or other institution or
4 program now or hereafter under the supervision and management of the Board of
5 Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges.

6 * * *

7 C.(1) In recognition of the critical importance and value of vocational and
8 technical education in the implementation of initiatives, including high school
9 redesign, workforce development, adult learning, and workforce competitiveness,
10 that are necessary to the fulfillment of the constitutional goal of providing learning
11 environments, at all stages of human development, that are designed to promote
12 excellence in order that every individual may develop to his full potential, to comply
13 with the provisions of Article VIII, Section 7.1(A) of the Constitution of Louisiana,
14 and in recognition of the critical importance and high value the services emanating
15 from such initiatives have for the citizens of this state, this Subsection provides for
16 and requires the thoughtful, but timely, reorganization of vocational and technical
17 education services within the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

18 (2)(a) Not later than August 16, 2005, the commissioner of higher education
19 shall appoint or assign a person with the appropriate expertise and background to
20 research, prepare, and propose a plan for the organization of the technical division
21 in compliance with this Subsection for presentation to the board in time for the
22 thoughtful consideration of its members and action by the board as required in
23 Paragraph (3) of this Subsection.

24 (b) In preparing such plan, the person shall consider and account for the
25 population patterns across the state, the enrollment patterns in the various institutions
26 of postsecondary education in the state, the evidence of commuting patterns in each
27 area of the state, the level of accreditation of the various community colleges and
28 other institutions that are part of the Community and Technical College System, and
29 the programs in place at the various institutions.

1 (c) In researching the plan, the person shall consult with representatives of
2 the students to be served, the faculty of the institutions involved, the businesses and
3 industries in each region, and the members of the legislature in each region.

4 (d)(i) The plan shall include a proposal to reconfigure the state level
5 technical resources to become the technical division of the Louisiana Community
6 and Technical College System.

7 (ii) The function of the state level unit shall include:

8 (aa) Statewide leadership and coordination of rapid-response workforce
9 development.

10 (bb) Statewide leadership on adult learning with an emphasis on developing
11 the community and technical college capacity as providers of adult literacy and adult
12 education services.

13 (cc) Professional development and other support services to the institutions
14 providing for technical education and workforce development.

15 (dd) Curriculum development.

16 (ee) Advocacy for the technical education mission with the Board of
17 Supervisors of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

18 (3)(a)(i) Not later than February 15, 2006, the Board of Supervisors of the
19 Community and Technical Colleges System shall take action on the proposed plan
20 for technical division as provided in this Section.

21 (ii) Not later than March 15, 2006, the technical division and the
22 requirements of this Subsection shall be operational.

23 (b) The technical division shall define regions based on evidence of
24 commuting patterns and regional labor markets.

25 (c) The administrative and operational leadership structure for each region
26 shall be established according to the variation of the institutions and components that
27 are part of or planned for the region in compliance with the plan approved and made
28 operational by the board of supervisors.

29 (d) Such structure shall include providing for regional coordinating authority
30 that will bring about the greatest efficiency in administering technical services within

1 the region which shall include the preparation and submission to the Board of
2 Supervisors of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System for its
3 approval an annual proposed operational and capital outlay budget for each
4 institution, based on a budget submitted by the head of each such institution in the
5 region, and a proposed budget for the operation of his office.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____