

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 171

BY REPRESENTATIVES JEFFERSON, WESLEY BISHOP, HALL, AND PRICE

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

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Provides relative to performance agreements between the Board of Regents and certain public historically black colleges and universities

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3139.2(2)(a) and (4)(a) and 3139.6(1), relative to
3 performance agreements between the Board of Regents and certain public
4 postsecondary education institutions; to provide relative to the terms of such
5 agreements with respect to remedial courses and developmental study programs
6 offered at certain historically black colleges and universities; to provide relative to
7 required reporting by the Board of Regents; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:3139.2(2)(a) and (4)(a) and 3139.6(1) are hereby amended and
10 reenacted to read as follows:

11 §3139.2. Performance agreements; objectives

12 Effective beginning with the 2011 Fiscal Year, any public postsecondary
13 education institution, including professional schools, may enter into an initial
14 performance agreement with the Board of Regents in order to be granted limited
15 operational autonomy and flexibility as provided in R.S. 17:3139.5 in exchange for
16 committing to meet established targets for the following performance objectives as
17 applicable to the institution as determined by the Board of Regents:

18 * * *

19 (2) Articulation and transfer. (a) Phase in increased admission standards
20 and other necessary policies by the end of the 2012 Fiscal Year in order to increase
21 student retention and graduation rates. This Subparagraph does not require and the

1 Board of Regents shall not require as an element of a performance agreement the
2 adoption of admission standards at Grambling State University, Southern University
3 and Agricultural and Mechanical College, or Southern University at New Orleans
4 that would prevent those institutions from admitting students who require remedial
5 courses.

6 * * *

7 (4) Institutional efficiency and accountability. (a) Eliminate remedial
8 education course offerings and developmental study programs unless such courses
9 or programs cannot be offered at a community college in the same geographic area.
10 However, Grambling State University, Southern University and Agricultural and
11 Mechanical College, and Southern University at New Orleans shall not be required
12 as an element of a performance agreement to eliminate remedial education course
13 offerings or developmental study programs.

14 * * *

15 §3139.6. Monitoring; reporting; renewal

16 (1) The Board of Regents annually shall monitor and report to the legislature
17 and the governor on each participating institution's progress in meeting the
18 established targets for performance objectives as specified in R.S. 17:3139.2 and the
19 effect of the exemptions as provided in R.S. 17:3139.2(2)(a) and (4)(a) relative to the
20 adoption of admission standards and the elimination of remedial education course
21 offerings and developmental study programs at certain institutions. At the end of the
22 first six years and each subsequent six-year period, the Board of Regents shall
23 determine whether to recommend renewal of an institution's performance agreement
24 subject to the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. Such
25 determination shall be based on the recommendations of a review panel established
26 by the Board of Regents to conduct a comprehensive review and evaluation of the
27 institution's progress in meeting the performance objectives. The composition of the
28 review panel shall be the same as is provided in R.S. 17:3138(C) with the addition
29 of two representatives from the business community, who each possess a

1 postsecondary degree, one recommended by the speaker of the House of
2 Representatives and one recommended by the president of the Senate.

3 * * *

4 Section 2. The provisions of this Act are applicable to agreements entered into after
5 the effective date of this Act. The exceptions added by this Act to R.S. 17:3139.2(2)(a) and
6 (4)(a) shall not apply to agreements entered into for the 2018-2019 academic year and
7 thereafter.

8 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
9 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
10 by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
11 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
12 effective on the day following such approval.

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 171 Engrossed

2015 Regular Session

Jefferson

Abstract: Exempts Grambling, Southern, and Southern at New Orleans from GRAD Act requirement to eliminate remedial courses.

Present law (the GRAD Act) authorizes specific tuition and fee increases and operational autonomies at public postsecondary education institutions contingent on those institutions meeting performance goals established by agreement with the Board of Regents. Requires that such performance goals include elimination of remedial courses and developmental programs and requires that admission standards be increased in order to increase retention and graduation rates. Proposed law exempts Grambling, Southern, and Southern at New Orleans from the requirement that their performance agreements require elimination of remedial courses and developmental programs. Provides that those institutions shall not be required to raise admission standards such that students requiring such courses would be excluded from admission.

Proposed law is applicable to performance agreements entered into after the effective date of proposed law but shall not apply to agreements entered into for the 2018-2019 academic year and thereafter.

Proposed law requires the Bd. of Regents annually to report the effect of the proposed law exemptions.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3139.2(2)(a) and (4)(a) and 3139.6(1))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Add that proposed law shall not apply to agreements entered into for the 2018-2019 academic year and thereafter.
2. Require the Bd. of Regents annually to report the effect of the proposed law exemptions.