

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 358

BY SENATOR MORRISH

POSTSECONDARY ED. Provides relative to the MediFund Board. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 51:2211(A), 2212(2), 2213(D) and (F), and 2215(A); and to repeal R.S. 36:651(CC) and 802.23 and R.S. 51:2214 (A) through (F), relative to the MediFund; to repeal the fund's governing board and transfer all duties and obligations of the board to the Board of Regents; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1 R.S. 51:2211(A), 2212(2), 2213(D) and (F), and 2215(A) are hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 37-A. LOUISIANA MEDIFUND

§2211. Purpose and goals

A. The provisions of this Chapter establish the MediFund as a special fund within the state treasury to support ~~the~~ advancement of biosciences, biomedical, and medical centers of excellence in Louisiana. The ~~MediFund governing board~~ **Board of Regents** shall endeavor to achieve this purpose by coordinating and deploying public and private resources to strategically develop and enhance this state's competitiveness in biosciences, biomedical, and medical centers of excellence.

\* \* \*

1 §2212. Definitions

2 As used in this Chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed  
3 to them below:

4 \* \* \*

5 (2) "Board" means the ~~MediFund governing board~~ **Board of Regents**.

6 \* \* \*

7 §2213. MediFund; creation

8 \* \* \*

9 D. Subject to appropriation by the legislature to the ~~MediFund Board through~~  
10 ~~the~~ Board of Regents, the monies in the fund shall be used solely for the purposes  
11 provided in this Chapter. The monies appropriated by the legislature and disbursed  
12 from the MediFund shall not displace, replace, or supplant funding for higher  
13 education for a purpose for which a general fund appropriation was made in the  
14 previous year unless the total appropriation for that fiscal year from the state general  
15 fund for such purpose exceeds general fund appropriations for the previous year.

16 \* \* \*

17 F. Three percent of the balance of the fund or an amount not to exceed six  
18 hundred thousand dollars, whichever is lesser, shall be used for administrative fees  
19 to accomplish the purpose of this Chapter, as approved by the ~~MediFund board~~  
20 **Board of Regents**.

21 \* \* \*

22 §2215. MediFund program guidelines

23 A. The MediFund Program shall be administered by the Board of Regents  
24 through its Sponsored Programs Unit, ~~in accordance with the policies promulgated~~  
25 ~~by the MediFund Board~~. All grant application review and grant selection processes  
26 shall follow the competitive request for proposals process and external review  
27 process as may be utilized by the Sponsored Programs Unit, including published  
28 criteria, so as to ensure impartial and merit-based grant selection.

29 \* \* \*

1 Section 2. R.S. 36:651(CC) and 802.23 and R.S. 51:2214 (A) through (F) are hereby  
2 repealed.

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

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

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## DIGEST

SB 358 Engrossed

2016 Regular Session

Morrish

Present law creates the Louisiana MediFund and provides for the MediFund governing board to administer the fund.

Proposed law repeals the MediFund Board and transfers all of its duties and functions to the Board of Regents.

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

(Amends R.S. 51:2211(A), 2212(2), 2213(D) and (F), and 2215(A); repeals R.S. 36:651(CC) and 802.23, and R.S. 51:2214(A) through (F))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by SenateCommittee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the original bill

1. Technical amendments.