

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 948

2016 Regular Session

Steve Carter

HIGHER EDUCATION: Provides relative to facilities of public postsecondary education institutions

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Add requirement that certain requests for capital outlay funds include information from the public hearing and reports required by proposed law.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law requires each public postsecondary education management board to adopt a policy requiring each institution under its supervision and management to develop plans for full use of existing facilities, including plans for distance learning.

Proposed law requires each such board to adopt a policy requiring each institution under its supervision and management to annually report information on use of classroom and laboratory facilities. The report shall be submitted to the board and posted on the institution's website and shall include:

- (1) Total number of classrooms and laboratories available for instructional use and the number of those undergoing renovation.
- (2) Total available square footage of instructional space and the amount of instructional space under renovation or being used for storage.
- (3) Average weekly hours of instructional use of all campus classrooms and laboratories available for instruction.
- (4) Average percentage of seats or stations filled in all sections taught in campus classrooms and laboratories that are available for instruction.
- (5) The number of courses the institution currently offers online and plans for future development of online courses.
- (6) The number of cooperative endeavors, partnerships, or other agreements the institution has entered into with another institution for the shared use of a facility, the extent to which such shared use has occurred, and any potential opportunities for shared use of facilities between institutions.

Proposed law requires each such board, prior to submission of any request for capital outlay funds exceeding \$10 million in state funds for new facilities, to hold a public hearing on the proposed facility. Requires that the hearing include discussions of the use of existing campus buildings, maintenance costs for the proposed building, funding sources for the proposed building, and any potential opportunities for shared use of facilities between institutions. Requires that such requests for capital outlay funds include a summary of the public hearing and information in reports required by proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351(J))