
DIGEST

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HB 122 Original

2017 Regular Session

Pierre

Abstract: Prohibits a public postsecondary education institution from inquiring about a prospective student's criminal history until after an interview or a conditional offer of admission is made and provides for the consideration of criminal history in making admission decisions.

Proposed law prohibits a public postsecondary education institution from inquiring on an initial application form about a prospective student's criminal history until after the prospective student has been given an opportunity to interview for acceptance for admission or, if no such interview is to be conducted, until after the prospective student has been given a conditional offer of acceptance for admission.

Proposed law provides, however, that a public postsecondary education institution may consider the criminal history of a prospective student in making the final determination of whether to accept the person for admission. Authorizes the institution, in considering the criminal history of the prospective student, to consider the following:

- (1) The nature and gravity of the criminal conduct.
- (2) The time that has passed since the occurrence of the criminal conduct.
- (3) The specific parameters of the institution or the prospective student's course of study and the bearing, if any, that the criminal conduct will have on the ability of the prospective student to meet these requirements.

Present law requires the Bd. of Regents to provide for the development and implementation of a common application that prospective students may use to apply to any public postsecondary education institution. Proposed law prohibits the inclusion on this application of questions pertaining to criminal history.

Present law authorizes public colleges and universities to accept the "Common Application" developed and administered by The Common Application, Inc. in lieu of the La. common application. Proposed law limits the authority to accept this application to one of these circumstances:

- (1) The "Common Application" does not include questions about criminal history.
- (2) The "Common Application" does include questions about criminal history, but the student

has not answered them.

(Amends R.S. 17:3138(A)(1)(a) and (D); Adds R.S. 17:3152)