

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 183

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

HIGHER EDUCATION: Provides relative to withholding of student transcripts for financial reasons

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3391(B)(introductory paragraph), relative to student debt; to  
3 require public postsecondary education management boards to adopt policies to  
4 prohibit the institutions under their supervision and management from withholding  
5 student transcripts and other records due to outstanding debt or defaulting on a loan;  
6 to prohibit public postsecondary education institutions from withholding certain  
7 services due to defaulting on a loan; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:3391(B)(introductory paragraph) is hereby amended and  
10 reenacted to read as follows:

11 §3391. Student records; outstanding student debt; student loan default

12 \* \* \*

13 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each public postsecondary  
14 education management board ~~may~~ shall adopt a policy to prohibit the institutions  
15 under its supervision and management from doing any of the following:

16 \* \* \*

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**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)]

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HB 183 Engrossed

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Hughes

**Abstract:** Prohibits certain postsecondary education institutions from withholding certain services when a student has an outstanding debt with the institution or a federal loan in default.

Present law authorizes public postsecondary education management boards to adopt policies to prohibit the institutions under their supervision and management from doing any of the following because of student debt, including but not limited to federal loans in default:

- (1) Withhold records, including transcripts, grades, and diplomas.
- (2) Condition providing a transcript on debt payment, other than the fee charged for a transcript, or requiring the student to enter into a debt repayment plan.
- (3) Charge a higher fee for a transcript or otherwise treat a student less favorably than a student without a debt.
- (4) Withhold a transcript as a tool for debt collection.

Proposed law requires, instead of authorizes, the adoption of such policies.

(Amends R.S. 17:3391(B)(intro. para.))