SENATE BILL NO. 261

BY SENATORS FIELDS, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CLOUD, CONNICK, CORTEZ, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HEWITT, JACKSON, LUNEAU, MCMATH, FRED MILLS, POPE, PRICE, SMITH, TARVER, WARD, WHITE AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3162(C)(11) through (14), 3163(B), 3164(C), and 3165(B),
3	to enact R.S. 17:3162(C)(15) and (16) and 3164.1, and to repeal R.S. 17:3129.8,
4	relative to transfer pathways; to provide for a comprehensive system of articulation
5	and transfer of credit between and among secondary and postsecondary education;
6	to provide relative to the duties of the statewide articulation and transfer council; to
7	provide relative to the guarantees in statewide articulation agreements; to provide
8	relative to the Board of Regents' duties in the common course numbering system; to
9	provide for the creation of statewide transfer pathways in major programs; and to
10	provide for related matters.
11	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
12	Section 1. R.S. 17:3162(C)(11) through (14), 3163(B), 3164(C), and 3165(B) are
13	hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3162(C)(15) and (16) and 3164.1 are hereby
14	enacted to read as follows:
15	§3162. Statewide Articulation and Transfer Council; creation; purpose; membership;
16	duties and responsibilities
17	* * *
18	C. The council shall, with appropriate faculty consultation:
19	* * *
20	(11) Oversee the development, implementation, and maintenance of
21	statewide transfer pathways.
22	(12) Develop statewide transfer agreements to govern the granting and
23	transfer of credit awarded through competency-based and prior learning
24	assessments.

1	(11)(13) Establish an appeals process to resolve disagreements between
2	transferring students and receiving educational institutions regarding the transfer and
3	acceptance of credits earned at another institution.
4	(12)(14) Ensure that all articulation and transfer policies and practices
5	approved by the council are compliant with the rules and regulations established by
6	all appropriate institutional accrediting agencies as recognized by the United States
7	Department of Education.
8	(13)(15) Periodically, but at least annually, review articulation and transfer
9	policies and make recommendations to the commissioner of higher education who
10	shall then make recommendations to the legislature for needed revisions.
11	(14)(16) Perform such other duties as may be provided by law or the
12	commissioner of higher education.
13	* * *
14	§3163. Statewide Articulation and Transfer Agreement
15	* * *
16	B. The statewide articulation agreement shall, at a minimum:
17	(1) Guarantee the transfer of general education courses and common degree
18	program prerequisites.
19	(2) Guarantee the transfer of all courses contained in a transfer pathway,
20	established pursuant to R.S. 17:3164.1, as credit in courses that satisfy general
21	education or program requirements.
22	(3) Guarantee that every graduate of a community college awarded an
23	associate of arts or an associate of science degree approved by the council for
24	transfer to a four-year postsecondary educational institution shall be deemed to have
25	met all general education and other core curriculum requirements and must shall be
26	granted admission to the upper division of any state public four-year college or
27	university public postsecondary institution, in accordance with each institution's
28	general transfer admission requirements, except to a limited access program or a
29	program that has audition or other specialized admission requirements, as approved
30	by the Board of Regents.

Page 2 of 5 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

SB NO. 261

ENROLLED

1	(3)(4) Provide that graduates awarded an associate of arts or an associate of
2	science degree approved by the council for transfer and who transfer to a four-year
3	college or university postsecondary institution shall not be required to take any
4	additional general education courses to fulfill baccalaureate degree requirements.
5	(4)(5) Provide that graduates awarded an associate of arts or an associate of
6	science degree approved by the council for transfer shall receive priority for
7	admission to a state four-year college or university public postsecondary institution
8	over out-of-state students.
9	(5) (6) Guarantee the statewide articulation of appropriate career and technical
10	education programs and workforce development programs and transfer of course
11	credits between secondary schools and technical and community colleges.
12	(6)(7) Provide for acceptance by postsecondary educational institutions of
13	credits earned in accelerated programs such as dual enrollment and the Advanced
14	Placement, International Baccalaureate, and College-Level Examination programs.
15	(8) Provide for acceptance by public postsecondary educational
16	institutions of credits earned through competency-based education and prior
17	learning assessments.
18	(7) (9) Guarantee the transfer of equivalent courses under the statewide course
19	numbering system.
20	(8)(10) Establish a common college transcript.
21	§3164. Common Course Numbering System
22	* * *
23	C.(1) Courses that have <u>substantially</u> the same academic content and are
24	taught by faculty with comparable credentials shall be considered equivalent courses
25	and shall be given the same course designation.
25 26	and shall be given the same course designation. (2) Equivalent courses shall be guaranteed to transfer to any educational
26	(2) Equivalent courses shall be guaranteed to transfer to any educational
26 27	(2) Equivalent courses shall be guaranteed to transfer to any educational institution participating in the statewide course numbering system.
26 27 28	 (2) Equivalent courses shall be guaranteed to transfer to any educational institution participating in the statewide course numbering system. (3) The Board of Regents, in consultation with the Statewide Articulation

Page 3 of 5 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

1	* * *
2	§3164.1. Transfer Pathways
3	A. The Board of Regents, in collaboration with the Statewide
4	Articulation and Transfer Council, shall develop, coordinate, and maintain
5	transfer pathways for baccalaureate programs that are highly demanded across
6	the state. The Board of Regents shall define and identify highly demanded
7	programs.
8	B. Each transfer pathway shall consist of sixty hours of instruction that
9	can be transferred and applied toward the requirements for a baccalaureate
10	degree in a highly demanded program at a four-year public postsecondary
11	institution.
12	C. Each transfer pathway shall contain courses from the common course
13	numbering system, developed pursuant to R.S. 17:3164, that satisfy graduation
14	requirements for an associate of art or an associate of science degree approved
15	by the council for transfer to a four-year postsecondary institution.
16	D. All courses in a transfer pathway shall transfer and apply toward the
17	general education requirements and requirements for graduation within the
18	highly demanded program offered at any four-year public postsecondary
19	institution.
20	${\bf E.A}$ student who completes all of the requirements of a transfer pathway
21	and who transfers to a highly demanded program at a four-year public
22	postsecondary institution shall not be required to complete more than the total
23	credits required for the baccalaureate degree in the highly demanded program,
24	less the sixty hours of credit earned in the transfer pathway.
25	F. Credit for a course in a transfer pathway that is included in the
26	statewide common course numbering system may be earned through
27	accelerated programs such as dual enrollment, Advanced Placement,
28	International Baccalaureate, College-Level Examination Program, and
29	competency-based education, or prior learning assessment that have been
30	deemed equivalent by the Board of Regents.

Page 4 of 5 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

1	§3165. Common core curriculum; general education courses; common prerequisites;
2	other degree requirements
3	* * *
4	B. The postsecondary education management boards shall identify their core
5	curricula. The public technical colleges, community colleges, and four-year colleges
6	and universities postsecondary institutions shall work with the State Board of
7	Elementary and Secondary Education and public schools and school districts to
8	assure that high school curricula coordinate align with the core curricula and to
9	prepare students for postsecondary study.
10	* * *
11	Section 2. R.S. 17:3129.8 is hereby repealed.
12	Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
13	signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
14	by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
15	vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
16	effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____