

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 142

BY REPRESENTATIVE MENA

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS: Provides relative to the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

## 1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(introductory paragraph) and (5) through (24) and  
3 (D) and to enact R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(25) and (26) and (G)(1)(I), relative to the  
4 Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities; to provide for the  
5 membership of the council; to provide for payment of certain expenses; to provide  
6 for the duties of the council; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(introductory paragraph) and (5) through (24) and (D)  
9 are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(25) and (26) and (G)(1)(I) are  
10 hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §3138.7. Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

12 \* \* \*

13 B. The council shall be composed of ~~twenty-four~~ twenty-six members as  
14 follows:

15 \* \* \*

16 (5) The chancellor of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical  
17 College, or his designee.

18 (6) The chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, or his designee.

19 ~~(6)~~ (7) The chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport, or his designee.

1           ~~(7)~~ (8) The chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, or his  
2           designee.

3           ~~(8)~~ (9) The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and  
4           Extension Center, or his designee.

5           ~~(9)~~ (10) The president of Grambling State University, or his designee.

6           ~~(10)~~ (11) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
7           Education, or his designee.

8           ~~(11)~~ (12) The secretary of Louisiana Economic Development, or his  
9           designee.

10          ~~(12)~~ (13) The secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, or his  
11          designee.

12          ~~(13)~~ (14) The president of the Louisiana State Conference of the National  
13          Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or his designee.

14          ~~(14)~~ (15) The president of the Urban League of Louisiana, or his designee.

15          ~~(15)~~ (16) The president of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana,  
16          or his designee.

17          ~~(16)~~ (17) The president of the Senate, or his designee.

18          ~~(17)~~ (18) The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.

19          ~~(18)~~ (19) The chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, or his  
20          designee.

21          ~~(19)~~ (20) A member of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, appointed  
22          by the chairman of the caucus. If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the  
23          House of Representatives, the appointed member shall be a member of the Senate.  
24          If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the Senate, the appointed member shall  
25          be a member of the House of Representatives.

26          ~~(20)~~ (21) The president of Xavier University of Louisiana, or his designee.

27          ~~(21)~~ (22) The president of Dillard University, or his designee.

28          ~~(22)~~ (23) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, or his  
29          designee.

1                   ~~(23)~~ (24) The chairman of the House Committee on Education, or his  
2                   designee.

3                   ~~(24)~~ (25) A student serving as student body president of a public or private  
4                   HBCU in Louisiana, selected annually by the HBCU student body presidents.

5                   (26) An at-large member appointed by the chairman of the council, who shall  
6                   serve for no more than two years.

7 \* \* \*

8 D.(1) Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for  
9 expenses as provided by the appointing authority.

10                   (2) Notwithstanding Paragraph (1) of this Subsection, the Board of Regents  
11                   may pay for travel and lodging expenses for attendance at council meetings for the  
12                   student member.

13 \* \* \*

14 G. The council shall:

(1) Advise the commissioner of higher education regarding methods to enhance the capabilities of HBCUs to serve the needs of their students and the state and methods whereby the state can better serve HBCUs. The council shall also help identify methods to:

19 \* \* \*

20 (l) Share best practices regarding campus safety.

21 \* \* \*

# 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)]

HB 142 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Mena

**Abstract:** Provides relative to the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Present law provides for the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and requires the council to advise the commissioner of higher education and the Bd. of Regents regarding best practices for strengthening HBCUs.

Proposed law increases the council's membership from 24 to 26 by adding the chancellor of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College and an at-large member appointed by the chairman of the council.

Present law requires one member to be a student serving as student body president of an HBCU in La. Proposed law authorizes the Bd. of Regents to pay for certain expenses for such member.

Proposed law requires the council to help identify methods to share best practices regarding campus safety.

(Amends R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(intro. para.) and (5)-(24) and (D); Adds R.S. 17:3138.7(B)(25) and (26) and (G)(1)(l))