

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 421 by Representative Ponti

CONTRACTORS: Adds a fee at license renewal for contractors dedicated to certain schools of construction management or construction technology

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Specifies that only Louisiana public universities and community colleges may receive funds.
2. Provides that should the accredited construction management or construction technology school experience a decrease in the funding appropriated to them by the university or community college as determined by the industry advisory council or board for the program, the school would be ineligible for participation and the monies from the fund for that school would be redistributed on a pro rata basis to all other eligible schools.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law provides for renewal of licenses for contractors. Allows for the licensing board for contractors to include on each license renewal form an optional election to allow for the donation of additional funds to a specified public university or community college foundation, which shall be remitted to the chosen foundation to be used solely for construction management programs.

Proposed law deletes present law with regard to optional donations and instead requires the board to assess on each license renewal for contractors an additional fee of \$100 per year to be dedicated to any public university in this state or any community college schools of construction management or construction technology in this state. Requires the board to include an optional election of the renewal form whereby the contractor may choose to not participate in the remission of the additional fee.

Proposed law further requires the schools to report to the board the number of graduates from the previous calendar year. Requires the disbursement of the funds collected to be by Aug. 1 of each year upon completion of the annual audit of the board.

Proposed law further requires that the funds be used solely for the benefit of the accredited public university or community college schools of construction management or construction technology and requires the expenditure of the funds to be approved by the industry advisory council or board of the school. Provides that the funds shall be in addition to any other monies received by such schools. Provides that should the school experience a decrease in the funding appropriated to them by the university or community college as determined by the industry advisory council or board for the program, the school would be ineligible for participation and the monies from the fund for that school would be redistributed on a pro rata basis to all other eligible schools.

Proposed law distributes the funds ½ pro rata to each accredited public university and community college school and ½ pro rata to each public university school based on the total number of graduates from the previous year as reported to the board by each school.

Proposed law requires the schools to be accredited by either of two national accreditation boards and requires the schools to maintain accreditation in order to receive funding.

(Amends R.S. 37:2156(C)(3))