

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 588

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARTER

HIGHER EDUCATION: (Constitutional Amendment) Provides for members of the postsecondary education management boards and the Board of Regents to have qualifications provided by law

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article VIII, Sections 5(B)(1), 6(B)(1), 7(B)(1), and 7.1(B)(1) of the

3 Constitution of Louisiana and to add Article VIII, Section 8(E) of the Constitution

4 of Louisiana, relative to governance of postsecondary education; to provide that

5 members of the postsecondary education management boards and the Board of

6 Regents shall have qualifications as provided by law; to provide relative to

7 qualifications for certain such boards; to provide for implementation; to provide for

8 submission of the proposed amendment to the electors; and to provide for related

9 matters.

10 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members

11 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state of

12 Louisiana, for their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to

13 amend Article VIII, Sections 5(B)(1), 6(B)(1), 7(B)(1), and 7.1(B)(1) of the Constitution of

14 Louisiana and to add Article VIII, Section 8(E) of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as

15 follows:

16 §5. Board of Regents

17 Section 5.

18 \* \* \*

19 (B)(1) Membership; Terms. The board shall be composed of fifteen

20 members, of whom two members shall be from each congressional district and the

1 remaining member or members shall be from the state at large appointed by the  
 2 governor, with consent of the Senate, for overlapping terms of six years, following  
 3 initial terms which shall be fixed by law. The board ~~should~~ shall be representative  
 4 of the state's population by race and gender to ensure diversity. The members of the  
 5 board shall possess qualifications as provided by law.

6 \* \* \*

7 §6. Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System

8 Section 6.

9 \* \* \*

10 (B)(1) Membership; Terms. The board shall be composed of fifteen  
 11 members, of whom two members shall be from each congressional district and the  
 12 remaining member or members shall be from the state at large, appointed by the  
 13 governor with consent of the Senate. The members of the board shall possess  
 14 qualifications as provided by law. The members shall serve overlapping terms of six  
 15 years, following initial terms fixed by law.

16 \* \* \*

17 §7. Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and  
 18 Mechanical College; Board of Supervisors of Southern University and  
 19 Agricultural and Mechanical College

20 Section 7.

21 \* \* \*

22 (B)(1) Membership; Terms. Each board shall be composed of fifteen  
 23 members, of whom two members shall be from each congressional district and the  
 24 remaining member or members shall be from the state at large, appointed by the  
 25 governor with consent of the Senate. The members of each board shall possess  
 26 qualifications as provided by law. The members shall serve overlapping terms of six  
 27 years, following initial terms fixed by law.

28 \* \* \*

1 §7.1. Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges

2 Section 7.1.

3 \* \* \*

4 (B)(1) Membership; Terms; Initial Membership and Terms. The board shall  
5 be composed of fifteen members appointed by the governor, as provided by law. In  
6 addition, the board shall have two student members as provided by law. All  
7 members selected and appointed by the governor shall be appointed with the consent  
8 of the Senate. Of those members selected and appointed by the governor, there shall  
9 be two members from each congressional district and the remaining member or  
10 members from the state at large. The board ~~should~~ shall be representative of the  
11 state's population by race and gender to ensure diversity. The members of the board  
12 shall possess qualifications as provided by law. The members selected and  
13 appointed by the governor shall serve terms of six years, except that the initial  
14 members shall serve terms as provided by law.

15 \* \* \*

16 §8. Boards; Membership; Compensation

17 Section 8.

18 \* \* \*

19 (E) Qualifications of Members. The legislature may provide by law for  
20 implementation of the provisions of Subparagraphs 5(B)(1), 6(B)(1), 7(B)(1), and  
21 7.1(B)(1) of this Article, relative to qualifications of board members.

22 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted  
23 to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election to be held on November 4,  
24 2014.

25 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election,  
26 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted  
27 to vote YES or NO, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as  
28 follows:

1 Do you support an amendment to provide that members of the postsecondary  
 2 education management boards and the Board of Regents shall have  
 3 qualifications as provided by law, to require diversity in membership of the  
 4 Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical  
 5 Colleges, and to provide for legislative implementation of such  
 6 qualifications? (Amends Article VIII, Sections 5(B)(1), 6(B)(1), 7(B)(1), and  
 7 7.1(B)(1); Adds Article VIII, Section 8(E))

---

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)]

---

Carter

HB No. 588

**Abstract:** Amends the constitution to provide that members of the postsecondary education management boards and the Board of Regents shall have qualifications as provided by law and authorizes legislative implementation of such requirement.

Present constitution creates and provides for the postsecondary education management boards, including the LSU and Southern University boards of supervisors, the UL system board of supervisors and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges. Also creates and provides for the Board of Regents to plan, coordinate, and have budgetary responsibility for public postsecondary education. Each board has 15 members who are appointed by the governor, two from each congressional district and the remaining members from the state at large. Authorizes one student member for each board, except provides that the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges shall have two student members as provided by law. Present constitution, relative to the Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, provides that the board should be representative of the state's population by race and gender to ensure diversity.

Proposed constitutional amendment additionally provides that the members of the postsecondary education management boards and the Board of Regents shall possess qualifications as provided by law. Also authorizes the legislature to provide by law for implementation of these provisions relative to qualifications of board members.

Proposed constitutional amendment changes present constitution relative to the Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges by providing that the board shall rather than should be representative of the state's population by race and gender to ensure diversity.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 4, 2014.

(Amends Const. Art. VIII, §§ 5(B)(1), 6(B)(1), 7(B)(1), and 7.1(B)(1); Adds Const. Art. VIII, §8(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill.

1. Changes present constitution provision relative to the Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges by providing that the board shall rather than should be representative of the state's population by race and gender to ensure diversity.