The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

SB 255 Original

2015 Regular Session

Morrell

<u>Proposed law</u> requires that beginning with the 2015-2016 academic year, or as soon as funding is made available, each public postsecondary institution shall administer an annual, anonymous sexual assault climate survey to its students, faculty, and employees.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the Board of Regents, in consultation with the public postsecondary education management boards, to establish procedures for the administration of the survey and may use the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey developed by the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a model.

Proposed law requires each public postsecondary institution to:

- (1) Administer the survey to students, faculty, and employees.
- (2) Report school-specific results of the survey to the Board of Regents.

Proposed law requires the Board of Regents to:

- (1) Submit a written report not later than September 1st of each year regarding the survey results of each public postsecondary institution and the state as a whole to the governor and the Senate and House of Representatives committees on education for the previous academic year.
- (2) Publish the survey results on the board's website and in any other location or venue the board deems necessary or appropriate.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the provisions of <u>proposed law</u> be implemented as expeditiously and to the maximum extent possible utilizing any and all available funding sources, including funding provided by the legislature.

Proposed law creates the Campus Accountability and Safety Act.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires each postsecondary institution that receives any Title IX funding from the U.S. Dept. of Education to comply with <u>proposed law</u>.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for a "responsible employee" who is an employee of a postsecondary institution with the authority to take action to redress a sexually-oriented criminal offense or has the duty to report such an offense or any other misconduct by students or employees to appropriate school officials.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires each institution and area first responder law enforcement agency to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to clearly delineate responsibilities and share information in accordance with applicable federal and state confidentiality laws, including but not limited to trends about sexually-oriented criminal offenses occurring against students of the institution.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires each institution to review and, if necessary, revise the MOU with each law enforcement agency every two years.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the MOU to include:

- (1) Delineation and sharing protocols of investigative responsibilities.
- (2) Protocols for investigations, including standards for notification and communication and measures to promote evidence preservation.
- (3) Agreed upon training and requirements for the institution on issues related to sexuallyoriented criminal offenses.
- (4) A method of sharing information about specific crimes, when authorized or requested to do so by a victim who has been fully and accurately informed about what procedures shall occur if the information is shared.
- (5) A method of sharing information about specific crimes anonymously, when authorized or requested to do so by a victim who has been fully and accurately informed about what procedures shall occur if the information is shared, in order to better protect overall campus safety.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the Board of Regents to establish uniform policies and best practices to implement measures to address the reporting of sexually-oriented criminal offenses on postsecondary campuses, the prevention of such crimes, and the medical and mental health care needed for these victims that includes the following:

- (1) Confidential advisors. The president, upon recommendation of the chief academic officer of each campus, shall designate employees who shall serve as confidential advisors, such as health care staff, clergy, staff of a women's center, or other such categories. Such designation shall not preclude the institution from partnering with national, state, or local victim services organizations to serve as confidential advisors or to serve in other confidential roles.
 - (a) The confidential advisor shall complete the training requirements as provided in proposed law.
 - (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, the attorney general in collaboration with the Board of Regents shall develop online training materials.
 - (c) The confidential advisor shall inform the victim of the following:

- (i) The rights of the victim under federal and state law and the policies of the institution.
- (ii) The victim's reporting options, including the option to notify a responsible employee, the option to notify local law enforcement, and any other reporting options.
- (iii) If reasonably known, the potential consequences of the reporting options.
- (iv) The process of investigation and disciplinary proceedings of the institution.
- (v) The process of investigation and adjudication of the criminal justice system.
- (vi) That the institutional student disciplinary proceeding has limited jurisdiction, scope, and available sanctions, and should not be considered a substitute for the criminal justice process.
- (vii) Potential reasonable accommodations that the institution may provide to a victim.
- (viii) The name and location of the nearest medical facility where a victim may have a rape kit administered by an individual trained in sexual assault forensic medical examination and evidence collection, and information on transportation options and available reimbursement for a visit to such facility.
- (d) The confidential advisor may serve as a liaison between a victim and the institution or local law enforcement, when directed to do so in writing, and assist a victim in contacting and reporting to a postsecondary education responsible employee or local law enforcement.
- (e) The confidential advisor shall be authorized by the institution to liaise with appropriate staff to arrange reasonable accommodations to allow the victim to change living arrangements or class schedules, obtain accessibility services, or arrange other accommodations.
- (f) The confidential advisor shall be authorized to accompany the victim to interviews and other proceedings of a campus investigation and institutional disciplinary proceedings.
- (g) The confidential advisor shall advise the victim of, and provide written information, regarding both the victim's rights and the institution's responsibilities regarding orders of protection, no contact orders, restraining orders, or similar lawful orders issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

- (h) The confidential advisor shall not be obligated to report crimes to the institution or law enforcement in a way that identifies a victim or an accused individual, unless otherwise required to do so by law. The confidential advisor shall, to the extent authorized under law, provide confidential services to students. Any requests for accommodations, made by a confidential advisor shall not trigger an investigation by the institution.
- (i) No later than the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year, the institution shall appoint an adequate number of confidential advisors. The Board of Regents shall determine the adequate number of confidential advisors for an institution based upon its size no later than January 1, 2016.
- (j) Each institution that enrolls fewer than 5,000 students may partner with another institution in their system or region to provide services.
- (2) Website. The institution shall list on its website:
 - (a) The contact information for obtaining a confidential advisor.
 - (b) Reporting options for victims of a sexually-oriented criminal offense.
 - (c) The process of investigation and disciplinary proceedings of the institution.
 - (d) The process of investigation and adjudication of the criminal justice system.
 - (e) Potential reasonable accommodations that the institution may provide to a victim.
 - (f) The telephone number and website address for a local, state, or national hotline providing information to sexual violence victims, which shall be updated on a timely basis.
 - (g) The name and location of the nearest medical facility where an individual may have a rape kit administered by an individual trained in sexual assault forensic medical examination and evidence collection, and information on transportation options and available reimbursement for a visit to such facility.
- (3) Online reporting. The institution may provide an online reporting system to collect anonymous disclosures of crimes and track patterns of crime on campus. An individual may submit a confidential report about a specific crime to the institution using the online reporting system. If the institution uses an online reporting system, the online system shall also include information regarding how to report a crime to a responsible employee and law enforcement and how to contact a confidential advisor.
- (4) Amnesty policy. The institution shall provide an amnesty policy for any student who reports, in good faith, sexual violence to a postsecondary education responsible employee. Such

student shall not be sanctioned by the institution for a nonviolent student conduct violation, such as underage drinking, that is revealed in the course of such a report.

(5) Training. Not later than January 1, 2016, the Board of Regents, in coordination with the attorney general and in consultation with state or local victim services organizations, shall develop a program for training for each individual who is involved in implementing an institution's student grievance procedures, including each individual who is responsible for resolving complaints of reported sex offenses or sexual misconduct policy violations, and each employee of an institution who has responsibility for conducting an interview with an alleged victim of a sexually-oriented criminal offense. Each institution shall ensure that the individuals and employees receive the training described in this Subsection no later than the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351(H) and R.S. 17:3399.11 through 3399.15)