

First Extraordinary Session, 1998

SENATE BILL NO. 57

BY SENATORS DARDENNE, EWING, HAINKEL, BARHAM AND  
ROMERO AND REPRESENTATIVES DOWNER,  
DEWITT AND MCMAINS

HIGHER EDUCATION. Constitutional amendment to eliminate an existing conflict in the membership of the Board of Regents and to provide for the membership in the same manner as the management boards.

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to amend Article VIII, Section 5(B) of the Constitution of  
3 Louisiana, relative to the Board of Regents; to provide for the number  
4 of members on the board and the required distribution of the  
5 gubernatorial appointment of such members to the board; and to specify  
6 an election for submission of the proposition to electors and provide a  
7 ballot proposition.

8 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of  
9 the members elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted  
10 to the electors of the state, for their approval or rejection in the manner  
11 provided by law, a proposal to amend Article VIII, Section 5(B) of the  
12 Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

13 §5. Board of Regents

14 \* \* \*

15 (B) Membership; Terms. The board shall ~~consist of fifteen~~  
16 electors **be composed of two members from each congressional**

1 **district and one from the state at large** appointed by the governor,  
 2 with consent of the Senate, for overlapping terms of six years,  
 3 following initial terms which shall be fixed by law. ~~At least one~~  
 4 ~~member, but no more than two members, shall be appointed from each~~  
 5 ~~congressional district.~~ **The board should be representative of the**  
 6 **state's population by race and gender to ensure diversity.**

\* \* \*

8 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be  
 9 submitted to the electors of the state of Louisiana at the statewide election  
 10 scheduled to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November,  
 11 1998.

12 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used  
 13 at the election there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of  
 14 the state shall be permitted to vote FOR or AGAINST, to amend the  
 15 Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read as follows:

16 To eliminate the conflict in the distribution of gubernatorial  
 17 appointments to the Board of Regents currently providing for  
 18 fifteen members with no more than two from any congressional  
 19 district by providing for the board to be composed of two  
 20 members from each congressional district and one at large  
 21 without specifying a total number. (Amends Article VIII,  
 22 Section 5(B))

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Diane M. Burkhart.

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Dardenne (SB 57)

DIGEST

Present constitution provides for the Board of Regents to consist of 15 electors, no more than two of whom may be appointed from any one

congressional district.

Proposed constitutional amendment revises the distribution of membership by providing as the constitution does for all three management boards for two members from each congressional district and one from the state at large without establishing a fixed total number of members. Specifies that the board should be representative of the state's populations by race and gender to ensure diversity.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election scheduled to be held on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1998.

(Amends Const. Art. VIII, Section 5(B))

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

##### Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill.

1. Specifies that the board should be representative of the state's population by race and gender to ensure diversity.
2. Changes the submission of the amendment to the voters from the 1998 congressional primary election to the statewide election scheduled on Tuesday next after the first Monday in November, 1998.
3. Makes technical change to language included on ballot.