

2018 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 199

BY SENATOR BISHOP

POSTSECONDARY ED. Creates the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3138.7 and R.S. 36:651(T)(7), relative to postsecondary education; to
3 establish the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities under
4 the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents; to provide relative to the membership,
5 powers, duties, and functions of the council; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.7 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 **§3138.7. Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

9 **A. The Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**
10 **(HBCUs) is hereby established under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents**
11 **for the purpose of focusing on ways to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to**
12 **provide the highest quality education, increase opportunities for HBCUs to**
13 **participate in and benefit from state programs, and ensure that Louisiana has**
14 **the highest proportion of college graduates from HBCUs in the country. In**
15 **consultation with the Southern University System and Grambling State**
16 **University, the council shall provide guidance and advice to the commissioner**
17 **of higher education and the Board of Regents regarding best practices to**

1 strengthen the capacity of Louisiana's HBCUs.

2 B. The council shall be composed of twenty-three members as follows:

3 (1) The commissioner of higher education, or his designee.

4 (2) The president of the Southern University System, or his designee.

5 (3) The president of the University of Louisiana System, or his designee.

6 (4) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College
7 System, or his designee.

8 (5) The chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, or his
9 designee.

10 (6) The chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport, or his designee.

11 (7) The chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, or his
12 designee.

13 (8) The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and
14 Extension Center, or his designee.

15 (9) The president of Grambling State University, or his designee.

16 (10) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
17 Education, or his designee.

18 (11) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development, or his
19 designee.

20 (12) The executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, or
21 his designee.

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

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

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

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

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

29 (18) The chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, or his

1 designee.

2 (19) A member of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, appointed by
3 the chairman of the caucus. If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the
4 House of Representatives, the appointed member shall be a member of the
5 Senate. If the chairman of the caucus is a member of the Senate, the appointed
6 member shall be a member of the House of Representatives.

7 (20) The president of Xavier University of Louisiana, or his designee.

8 (21) The president of Dillard University, or his designee.

9 (22) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, or his
10 designee.

11 (23) The chairman of the House Committee on Education, or his
12 designee.

13 C. Members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing
14 authority and vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original
15 appointment.

16 D. Members shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed
17 for expenses as provided by the appointing authority.

18 E.(1) The commissioner of higher education shall call the first meeting
19 of the council no later than September 1, 2018, and a chairman and a vice
20 chairman shall be elected from among the council's membership at this meeting.

21 (2) The council shall meet upon the call of the chairman, but not less than
22 twice annually.

23 F. The Board of Regents shall provide staff support to assist the council
24 in performing its duties and responsibilities.

25 G. The council shall:

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

1 (a) Improve the identity, visibility, distinctive capabilities, and overall
2 competitiveness of HBCUs.

3 (b) Provide the highest quality education to the greatest number of
4 students.

5 (c) Promote centers of academic research and programmatic excellence.

6 (d) Strengthen the fiscal stability of HBCUs.

7 (e) Increase HBCUs contribution to the state's educational and
8 workforce goals.

9 (f) Elevate public awareness of the contributions and value of HBCUs.

10 (g) Encourage public-private investments in HBCUs.

11 (h) Engage the philanthropic, business, government, and education
12 communities in a dialogue regarding current and future HBCU programs and
13 initiatives.

14 (i) Foster enduring private-sector initiatives and public-private
15 partnerships.

16 (j) Inform public policy discussions and practices by improving the
17 availability and dissemination of high-quality information concerning HBCUs
18 to elected officials and the public.

19 (k) Share best practices regarding administrative and programmatic
20 processes.

21 (2) Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal and state
22 programs by:

23 (a) Working with state and federal departments, agencies, and offices to:

24 (i) Identify programs and initiatives in which HBCUs may be either
25 underserved or underused as a resource.

26 (ii) Encourage HBCUs to participate in state and federal programs and
27 initiatives.

28 (iii) Establish methods to increase the capacity of HBCUs to effectively
29 compete for grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements.

1 **(b) Encouraging public-sector and private-sector involvement with**
2 **HBCUs on such initiatives.**

3 **(3) Strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana's**
4 **workforce and economic development activities by:**

5 **(a) Working with the Department of Economic Development to ensure**
6 **full participation and inclusion of HBCUs at the inception stage and throughout**
7 **implementation of economic development activities.**

8 **(b) Working with the Louisiana Workforce Commission to help identify**
9 **educational programs to address workforce gaps.**

10 **(c) Requesting the Department of Economic Development and the**
11 **Workforce Commission to provide periodic updates to the Council on their**
12 **activities and initiatives.**

13 Section 2. R.S. 36:651(T)(7) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

14 §651. Transfer of boards, commissions, departments, and agencies to Department of
15 Education; boards, commissions, and agencies within Department of
16 Education

17 * * *

18 T. The following agencies are placed within the Department of Education and
19 shall perform and exercise their powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities as
20 provided by law:

21 * * *

22 **(7) The Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities**
23 **(R.S. 17:3138.7).**

24 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
25 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
26 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
27 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
28 effective on the day following such approval.

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

DIGEST

SB 199 Engrossed

2018 Regular Session

Bishop

Proposed law creates the Advisory Council on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) under the jurisdiction of the Board of Regents for the purpose of focusing on ways to strengthen the capacity of HBCUS. In consultation with the Southern University System and Grambling State University, the council shall provide guidance and advice to the commissioner of higher education and the Board of Regents regarding best practices to strengthen the capacity of the state's HBCUs.

Proposed law provides the council shall be composed of 23 members as follows:

- (1) The commissioner of higher education, or his designee.
- (2) The president of the Southern University System, or his designee.
- (3) The president of the University of Louisiana System, or his designee.
- (4) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, or his designee.
- (5) The chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans, or his designee.
- (6) The chancellor of Southern University at Shreveport, or his designee.
- (7) The chancellor of the Southern University Law Center, or his designee.
- (8) The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center, or his designee.
- (9) The president of Grambling State University, or his designee.
- (10) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, or his designee.
- (11) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development, or his designee.
- (12) The executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, or his designee.
- (13) The president of the Louisiana State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or his designee.
- (14) The president of the Urban League of Louisiana, or his designee.
- (15) The president of the ACLU of Louisiana, or his designee.
- (16) The president of the Senate, or his designee.
- (17) The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.
- (18) The chairman of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, or his designee.
- (19) A member of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus appointed by the chairman of the caucus. If the chairman is a member of the House, the appointed member shall

be a member of the Senate. If the member is a member of the Senate, the appointed member shall be a member of the House.

- (20) The president of Xavier University of Louisiana, or his designee.
- (21) The president of Dillard University, or his designee.
- (22) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, or his designee.
- (23) The chairman of the House Committee on Education, or his designee.

Proposed law requires the commissioner of higher education to call the first meeting of the council by September 1, 2018. Further provides that the chairman and vice-chairman of the council be elected from among the membership at this meeting. Additionally provides that the council shall meet upon the call of the chairman, but not less than twice annually.

Proposed law provides that the council shall advise the commissioner of higher education regarding methods to enhance the capabilities of HBCUs in order to better serve their students and the state, to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to participate in federal and state programs, and to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to fully participate in Louisiana's workforce and economic development opportunities.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:3138.7 and R.S. 36:651(T)(7))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill

- 1. Provides a purpose statement.
- 2. Includes private HBCUs.
- 3. Increases membership to 23 members and provides for their appointment.
- 4. Makes technical changes.
- 5. Provides for the selection of a vice-chairman.
- 6. Provides for additional functions of the council.