
DIGEST

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Patricia Smith

HB No. 419

Abstract: Creates the Remedial Education Commission and provides for commission purpose, duties, responsibilities, membership, reporting requirements, and termination.

Proposed law creates the Remedial Education Commission for the purposes of studying and reviewing the data on educational services provided in public elementary and secondary schools and remedial education provided at public postsecondary education institutions and recommending best practices and strategies to be used by such schools and institutions in providing such educational services.

Provides for commission membership as follows:

- (1) The commissioner of higher education or his designee.
- (2) The state superintendent of education or his designee.
- (3) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education or his designee.
- (4) The president of the La. Community and Technical College System or his designee.
- (5) The chairman of the House Committee on Education or his designee.
- (6) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education or his designee.
- (7) The executive director of the office of college and career readiness of the state Dept. of Education or his designee.
- (8) The following persons to be appointed by the commissioner of higher education:
 - (a) A representative from a public postsecondary four-year institution.
 - (b) A representative from a public postsecondary two-year institution.
 - (c) A representative from the La. Association for Developmental Education with experience in intervention education services and remedial education as a researcher or practitioner.

- (d) A nontraditional adult student attending a public postsecondary education institution.
 - (e) A representative from the Board of Regents with responsibilities in implementing remedial education.
- (9) The following persons to be appointed by the state superintendent of education:
- (a) A middle or high school teacher employed in a public school located in an urban area of the state.
 - (b) A middle or high school teacher employed in a public school located in a rural area of the state.
 - (c) A parent of a student enrolled in a public middle or high school.

Provides that legislative members of the commission shall receive the same per diem and travel allowance for attending commission meetings as is normally provided for meetings of legislative committees. Prohibits other members of the commission from receiving compensation.

Provides that the commission is a joint collaboration between the Board of Regents and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. Requires the Board of Regents and the state Dept. of Education to designate staff to assist the commission.

Requires the commissioner of higher education to convene the commission for its first meeting by Sept. 15, 2011, and requires the commission to select a chairman and a vice chairman at the meeting. Provides that the commission shall meet upon the call of the chairman as often as necessary and requires the commission to establish a meeting schedule and time line for completion of its duties.

Requires the commission to study and make recommendations on specified issues including but not limited to a review of the following:

- (1) The data and research on remedial education services provided in public schools and public postsecondary education institutions.
- (2) K-12 to postsecondary education transition issues.
- (3) The need for clear entrance and exit standards and transferability of credits for all remedial courses.
- (4) The capacity of the community and technical colleges to provide all remedial education services.
- (5) The role of distance learning and other alternatives to traditional instruction for the

delivery of remedial education.

- (6) The creation of a formalized professional development program and communication system for remedial education faculty from both secondary and postsecondary education.

Authorizes the commission to request and receive education data and other related data and information produced by public entities and requires such entities to respond in a timely manner using a standardized format as determined by the commission.

Requires the commission to submit a written report of study findings and recommendations to the House and Senate education committees at least 60 days prior to the 2012 R.S. Requires the report to include recommendations for any changes to laws, rules, or guidelines needed as it relates to the study.

Provides that the commission shall terminate on June 30, 2012.

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

(Adds R.S. 17:3140 and R.S. 36:651(G)(3))