

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 948

BY REPRESENTATIVE STEVE CARTER

HIGHER EDUCATION: Provides relative to facilities of public postsecondary education institutions

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3351(J), relative to education facilities at public postsecondary education
3 institutions; to require management boards to adopt policies with respect to use of
4 such facilities; to require reports; to provide relative to construction of new facilities;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §3351. General powers, duties, and functions of postsecondary education
9 management boards

10 * * *

11 J.(1) Each board shall adopt a policy requiring each institution under its
12 supervision and management to develop plans for full use of existing facilities,
13 including plans for distance learning.

14 (2) Each board shall adopt a policy requiring each institution under its
15 supervision and management to annually report information on use of classroom and
16 laboratory facilities. The report shall be submitted to the board and posted on the
17 institution's website. Such information shall include:

1 (a) Total number of classrooms and laboratories available for instructional
2 use and the number of those undergoing renovation.

3 (b) Total available square footage of instructional space and the amount of
4 instructional space under renovation or being used for storage.

5 (c) Average weekly hours of instructional use of all campus classrooms and
6 laboratories available for instruction, reported by day of the week and time of day,
7 Monday through Saturday.

8 (d) Average percentage of seats or stations filled in all sections taught in
9 campus classrooms and laboratories that are available for instruction, reported by
10 day of the week and time of day, Monday through Saturday.

11 (e) The number of courses the institution currently offers online and plans
12 for future development of online courses.

13 (f) The number of cooperative endeavors, partnerships, or other agreements
14 the institution has entered into with another institution for the shared use of a facility,
15 the extent to which such shared use has occurred, and any potential opportunities for
16 shared use of facilities between institutions.

17 (3) Prior to the submission of any request for capital outlay funds
18 appropriating an amount exceeding ten million dollars in state funds for construction
19 of new facilities at an institution under its supervision and management, the board
20 shall hold a public hearing on the proposed facility. The hearing shall include
21 discussions of:

22 (a) Level and manner of use of existing campus facilities, using the metrics
23 reported pursuant to Paragraph (2) of this Subsection, for the preceding three-year
24 period.

25 (b) Projected maintenance costs for the proposed building over its expected
26 lifetime.

27 (c) Funding sources for the proposed building.

28 (d) Any potential opportunities for shared use of facilities between
29 institutions.

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)]

HB 948 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

Steve Carter

Abstract: Provides relative to facility use at public postsecondary education institutions.

Proposed law requires each public postsecondary education management board to adopt a policy requiring each institution under its supervision and management to develop plans for full use of existing facilities, including plans for distance learning.

Proposed law requires each such board to adopt a policy requiring each institution under its supervision and management to annually report information on use of classroom and laboratory facilities. The report shall be submitted to the board and posted on the institution's website and shall include:

- (1) Total number of classrooms and laboratories available for instructional use and the number of those undergoing renovation.
- (2) Total available square footage of instructional space and the amount of instructional space under renovation or being used for storage.
- (3) Average weekly hours of instructional use of all campus classrooms and laboratories available for instruction.
- (4) Average percentage of seats or stations filled in all sections taught in campus classrooms and laboratories that are available for instruction.
- (5) The number of courses the institution currently offers online and plans for future development of online courses.
- (6) The number of cooperative endeavors, partnerships, or other agreements the institution has entered into with another institution for the shared use of a facility, the extent to which such shared use has occurred, and any potential opportunities for shared use of facilities between institutions.

Proposed law requires each such board, prior to submission of any request for capital outlay funds exceeding \$10 million in state funds for new facilities, to hold a public hearing on the proposed facility. Requires that the hearing include discussions of the use of existing campus buildings, maintenance costs for the proposed building, funding sources for the proposed building, and any potential opportunities for shared use of facilities between institutions.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351(J))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Relative to proposed law requirement that each board hold a public hearing on any proposed facility, require that such hearing be held prior to submitting any request for capital outlay funds exceeding \$10 million in state funds instead of prior to approving use of capital outlay funds exceeding such amount.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add to the list of information to be reported by institutions information on the cooperative endeavors, partnerships, or other agreements the institution has entered into with another institution.
2. Add to the list of topics to be discussed at board hearings any potential opportunities for shared use of facilities between institutions.