RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 772 (SB 484) **2026 Regular Session** **Abraham**

La. Health Works Commission

Existing law creates the La. Health Works Commission under the jurisdiction of the Bd. of Regents. Provides that one of the members is the secretary of La. Works or the secretary's designee.

Prior law provided that the commission was to elect the chairman.

New law retains existing law with respect to the membership of the commission but changes the leadership from a single chairman to two co-chairs. Provides that the secretary of La. Works or the secretary's designee is to be a co-chair and the commission is to elect the other co-chair.

Incubator Facilities on Campuses

Prior law required the Bd. of Regents to conduct a survey of colleges and universities for the purposes of establishing incubator facilities and establish criteria for evaluating institutions.

New law applies these requirements to each public college and university management board instead of the Bd. of Regents.

Fiscal Accountability

Prior law required the Bd. of Regents to develop an accountability process for postsecondary education.

New law requires the Bd. of Regents to establish a uniform fiscal policy to be adopted by each management board no later than Dec. 31, 2026. Provides for specific policy parameters and requires the Bd. of Regents to develop and implement a fiscal early warning system to monitor the financial condition of each institution and to require each management board to develop and implement a corrective action plan in response to an institution identified as being in fiscal distress. Requires the Bd. of Regents to refer the matter to the office of the inspector general if a board fails to take corrective action.

Common Application

Prior law required the Bd. of Regents, in collaboration with each management board and the chairman of the House and Senate Education committees, to provide for the development of a common application for applying to public colleges and universities in the state.

New law instead requires each public college and university management board, in collaboration with each institution and such chairmen, to do so for applying to colleges and universities in its system. Requires each of these applications to be fully implemented and available to students applying for admission for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Purple Star Campus

Prior law required the Bd. of Regents to establish a process and criteria by which a college or university campus was to be designated as a "Purple Star Campus".

New law requires the Dept. of Veterans Affairs to establish the process and criteria for the campus to be designated as a "Purple Star Campus".

La. Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund and Cybersecurity Education Management Council

Existing law creates and provides for the La. Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund.
Prior law provided that monies in the fund were appropriated to the Bd. of Regents to be distributed to public colleges and universities.

New law provides for appropriation to, and distribution by, La. Works.

Existing law creates the Cybersecurity Education Management Council for the purpose of advising and making recommendations with respect to distributions from the fund. Prior law placed the council within the Bd. of Regents for purposes of executive branch organization.

New law transfers the council from the Bd. of Regents to La. Works.

LUMCON

Existing law creates the La. Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium for Research and Education (LUMCON) as a body corporate under the authority of the Bd. of Regents.

New law retains existing law and creates the La. Marine Consortium Efficiency and Research Competitiveness Commission to study and make recommendations regarding LUMCON. Provides for the following commission members:

(1) The president of the LSU System or his designee.

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

(3) The president of the University of La. System or his designee.

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

(5) One member representing the La. Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, who is to be the president of Tulane University or his designee.

New law provides that the executive director of LUMCON is to serve as a nonvoting ex officio member of the commission and is to serve as secretary; that the members are to elect a chairman from among the voting members; and that the commission is to meet as necessary and may request information, data, reports, and assistance from LUMCON and participating institutions.

New law requires the commission, not later than Jan. 2, 2027, to submit a written report to the House and Senate committees on education, the House Committee on Appropriations, the Senate Committee on Finance, and the Bd. of Regents. Requires the executive director of LUMCON to prepare and submit the report.

New law provides for the commission to terminate on Jan. 2, 2027.

Capital Outlay

Existing law provides for the capital outlay budgeting process and provides for exemptions to existing law, including minor repairs, renovation, construction, or purchase of facilities on public college and university campuses, subject to approval by the higher education management board having authority over the campus. Prior law limited the exemption to construction projects that were less than or equal to $1 million and required additionally that the project also be approved by the Bd. of Regents.

New law raises the threshold from $1 million to $2 million and removes prior law that required the additional approval of the Bd. of Regents. New law requires that the management boards report the construction to the Bd. of regents after the management board has approved the campus construction project.

Existing law provides no state college, university, higher education facility, or consortium may incur debt to fund any project that is not included in the capital outlay budget other than a short-term loan not to exceed one year for the purposes included in existing law. Provides that any short-term loan is to be issued in accordance with existing law and does not constitute or create any debt, liability, or loan of the credit of or a pledge of the full faith and credit of the state but is to be solely the obligation of the appropriate postsecondary education management board and the Bd. of Regents.

New law removes the additional approvals by the Bd. of Regents and adds that each higher education management board is to report projects initiated when the construction cost or purchase price on university or college campuses that are between $250,000 and $2 million to the Bd. of Regents on a monthly basis.

Existing law authorizes a college or university to undertake any new construction, maintenance, or repair project that does not costs more than $10 million and is solely funded from self-generated revenues, grants, donations, or local or federal funds without being included in the Capital Outlay Bill, provided that the project is approved by all of the following: (a) the appropriate higher education management board; (b) the division of administration, office of facility planning and control; and (c) the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB).

New law removes prior law that required the construction projects to be approved by the Bd. of Regents. New law requires each higher education management board report to report the projects initiated to the Bd. of Regents on a monthly basis.

Agency Attrition Analysis Process

Existing law requires the Bd. of Regents to establish and implement an agency attrition analysis process to be used by each college and university system to review historical employee vacancies within each agency with a goal to reduce by five percent annually for three years by an equally proportionate reduction of such positions across all salary ranges of equal increments, beginning Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

New law changes the jurisdiction of the implementation of the analysis from the Bd. of Regents to the college and university system management beginning Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

Prior law required, in the first day of the month following the month in which the executive budget is submitted to JLCB, the Bd. of Regents to provide a written report to the Commission on Streamlining Government.

New law instead requires each management board to submit the report to JLCB.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 17:2048.51(C)(1) and (G)(1)(b)(i), 3128.1(A)(intro. para.), (B), and (C), 3134, 3138(A), (B), and (E), 3138.5(B)(1), (D)(1), (2), (4)(intro. para.) and (f), and (5), and (E), and 3138.9(A)(3) and (5), (B)(1), and (C), R.S. 39:128(B)(1) and (4)(a)(i), and R.S. 42:375.2(A), (B)(intro. para.) and (1), (C), and (D)(3); adds R.S. 17:3128.1(D), 3138(G), and 3454(E), R.S. 36:309(E)(3), and R.S. 42:375.2(D)(4); repeals R.S. 36:651(F)(6) and (L)(1)(a))