

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 473

BY SENATOR ABRAHAM

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES. Provides relative to the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium. (See Act)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3129.10, the chapter heading of Chapter 28 of Title 17 of the

3 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and 3451 and to repeal R.S. 17:3452 through

4 3456, relative to the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium; to provide for the

5 DeFelice Marine Center and marine education function; to provide for the Houma

6 Maritime Campus and research functions; to provide an effective date; to provide

7 relative to division of assets; and to provide for related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:3129.10, the chapter heading of Chapter 28 of Title 17 of the

10 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and 3451 are hereby amended and reenacted to read as

11 follows:

12 §3129.10. Authority to carry over interagency transfers and self-generated revenues;

13 ~~the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium and LOUIS: The~~

14 Louisiana Library Network

15 ~~A. The Board of Regents, as the governing authority of the Louisiana~~

16 Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON), may retain and carry over into the next

17 fiscal year those balances in LUMCON's interagency transfers and self-generated

1 ~~revenue accounts which remain unexpended at the end of a fiscal year.~~

2 B: The Board of Regents, as the governing authority of LOUIS: The
3 Louisiana Library Network (LOUIS), may retain and carry over into the next fiscal
4 year those balances in LOUIS's interagency transfers and self-generated revenue
5 accounts which remain unexpended at the end of a fiscal year.

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7 CHAPTER 28. LOUISIANA UNIVERSITIES MARINE
8 CONSORTIUM FOR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

9 §3451. Purpose **DeFelice Marine Center and Houma Maritime Campus;**
10 **implementation; division of assets**

11 ~~The purpose of this Chapter is to create the Louisiana Universities Marine~~
12 ~~Consortium for Research and Education as a statewide entity with the primary~~
13 ~~function of conducting research and promoting education in the marine sciences and~~
14 ~~marine technology, particularly where related to coastal resources and the impact of~~
15 ~~energy related industries upon these coastal resources. Such functions shall be~~
16 ~~performed by the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium on the Louisiana gulf~~
17 ~~coast.~~

18 **A. It is the intent of the legislature to eliminate the Louisiana Universities**
19 **Marine Consortium (LUMCON) and assign the DeFelice Marine Center and**
20 **marine education function to Nicholls State University and assign the Houma**
21 **Maritime Campus and research functions to Louisiana State University and**
22 **Agricultural and Mechanical College, not later than March 1, 2025.**

23 **B. Division of assets shall be as follows:**

24 **(1) Not later than December 31, 2024, the Board of Regents, LSU, and**
25 **Nicholls State may confect an agreement on the disposition of property,**
26 **facilities, equipment, personnel, and records. That agreement must include a**
27 **date of transfer of operations. The Board of Regents shall disburse any**
28 **appropriations or allocations made in support of LUMCON to the two**
29 **universities in accordance with the agreement.**

function to Nicholls State University and assigns the Houma Maritime Campus and research functions to Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.

Proposed law provides that the Board of Regents, LSU, and Nicholls State can come to an agreement, by December 31, 2024, on the disposition of property, facilities, equipment, personnel, and records.

Proposed law provides that if no agreement is confected by December 31, 2024, the LUMCON facility and assets located in Cocodrie will be transferred to Nicholls State University and the property and watercraft located at the Houma facility will be transferred to LSU.

Proposed law requires Nicholls State University and LSU to jointly submit a report to the legislature by March 1, 2025, about the transfer of management and operations which includes an assignment of assets and personnel.

Proposed law repeals provisions related to Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium for research and education.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:3129.10, chapter heading of Chapter 28 of Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and 3451; repeals 17:3452-3456)