

SENATE BILL NO. 293

BY SENATOR EDMONDS

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 36:301(B) and (C)(2) and to enact R.S. 17:3138.12(D)(4), Chapter 11-A of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 23:1801, and R.S. 36:304(A)(10), relative to the Louisiana Workforce Commission; to provide for workforce development; to provide relative to the powers and duties of the secretary; to provide relative to the collection of integrated data; to provide for reporting requirements; to provide for coordination and delivery of workforce solutions; to provide for goals; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3138.12(D)(4) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§3138.12. Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for Transformation

(LA FIRST)

* * *

D. LA FIRST, using the data center services of the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center, shall develop and annually publish the following reports:

* * *

(4) Other ad hoc reports requested by any state entity listed in this Section, or other state entities with prior approval of all parties to the data sharing agreements associated with data used in developing the ad hoc report and with requisite funding.

* * *

Section 2. Chapter 11-A of Title 23 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 23:1801, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

1 (e) Parish or city economic development organizations.

2 (f) Other ad hoc reports developed and published pursuant to the
3 provisions of R.S. 17:3138.12 at the request of the secretary of any state entity
4 listed in that Section, or other state entities with prior approval of all parties to
5 the data sharing agreements associated with data used in developing the ad hoc
6 report and with requisite funding.

7 C. Recommendations and development of workforce solutions shall seek
8 to accomplish the following goals:

9 (1) Design and collaborate business solutions capabilities to enable
10 employers in every region of the state to have a single point of contact for
11 developing solutions to their immediate and long-term workforce needs.

12 (2) Provide a path for college students in Louisiana's four-year
13 universities and two-year colleges toward paid or unpaid internships in
14 Louisiana while they are in their associate degree, non-credit, or technical
15 credential program or bachelor's degree program, with the goal that their
16 internships are embedded in their degree programs, and are in their fields of
17 study or professional fields of interest after graduation. The Board of Regents
18 shall research and enact policies and procedures that incentivize Louisiana's
19 public institutions to incorporate work-based learning into their degree
20 program curricula and strengthen the impact of work-based learning on
21 graduate outcomes.

22 (3) Provide a path for high school participants to earn credit for a paid
23 internship or apprenticeship, through work-based learning by the time they
24 graduate from high school. As necessary, the Department of Education shall
25 recommend changes to the state accountability system to increase and reward
26 work-based learning in high schools throughout Louisiana. These internships
27 or apprenticeships should be available in a broad range of fields, including
28 professional and technical, and coordinated regionally and locally with
29 chambers of commerce and economic development organizations.

30 (4) Design a process for accurate workforce shortage forecasting relevant

1 to the current state needs and forecasted economic development sector goals
 2 reported to the state workforce investment council and Louisiana Economic
 3 Development, annually.

4 (5) Organizations listed in Paragraph (B)(1) of this Section shall
 5 collaborate on development of an inventory of workforce programs in Louisiana
 6 and metrics on their performance, and report by February first of each year to
 7 the governor and legislature on a strategy and progress to address and improve
 8 workforce needs. The organizations shall develop common communication and
 9 information for the public and business community to understand the state's
 10 workforce vision with messages that guide improvement of workforce
 11 development efforts in Louisiana.

12 (6) Identify, recommend, and pilot solutions that use nonprofit or private
 13 partners for state workforce solutions where possible.

14 D.(1) The Louisiana Workforce Commission shall determine entities
 15 responsible for convening the state's economic sectors with the greatest
 16 workforce demand shortages to address solutions to the top three sectors'
 17 shortages, annually. If the healthcare sector is determined to have workforce
 18 shortages, the recommendations shall be comprehensive to also include
 19 solutions for shortages of medical doctors and doctors of osteopathic medicine,
 20 especially in rural Louisiana, as well as nursing and allied health professionals.

21 (2) The agencies and institutions listed in Paragraphs (B)(1) and (2) of
 22 this Section shall provide educational attainment data from their constituents
 23 to ensure achievement for sixty percent of adults to possess a postsecondary
 24 degree or certificate in a trade by the year 2030, enabling more adults to possess
 25 postsecondary degrees, diplomas, certificates, and credentials of value.

26 Section 3. R.S. 36:301(B) and (C)(2) are hereby amended and reenacted, and
 27 304(A)(10) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

28 §301. Louisiana Workforce Commission; creation; domicile; composition; purposes
 29 and functions

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