DIGEST

SB 305 Original   2026 Regular Session   Edmonds

Proposed law (R.S. 17:3138.2) requires the Bd. of Regents to develop, maintain, and make public a statewide dashboard that provides information on the alignment between postsecondary degree programs and workforce outcomes in Louisiana.

Proposed law provides that the dashboard will be designed to assist students and their families in understanding career outcomes associated with degree programs, policymakers and state agencies in evaluating postsecondary program alignment with workforce needs, and postsecondary institutions in strengthening program design and labor market relevance.

Proposed law provides that the dashboard include the following disaggregated information:

(1)   Degree program completion data.

(2)   Employment outcomes following completion, including industry and occupational placement.

(3)   Median and range of wages at defined intervals following completion.

(4)   Alignment of degree programs with high-demand or priority occupations as identified by the state.

(5)   Additional indicators determined by the Bd. of Regents to be relevant to career alignment and economic development.

Proposed law requires the Bd. of Regents to ensure the dashboard is updated on a regular basis, use consistent and clearly defined metrics, and present information in a manner that is accessible and understandable to the general public.

Proposed law provides that nothing in proposed law will be construed to require the disclosure of personally identifiable information, create performance funding requirements or mandates for postsecondary institutions, or limit institutional autonomy over curriculum or academic programming.

Proposed law allows the Bd. of Regents to adopt rules and enter into data-sharing agreements as necessary to implement proposed law.

Present law (R.S. 17:3138.13) provides that Louisiana Works must perform an annual return on investment analysis for the purpose of evaluating the relationship between industry-based credentials earned by high school students and the students' attainment of high-wage, high-demand jobs that are aligned with state workforce priorities.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that the Bd. of Regents and Louisiana Works must develop procedures to collect and analyze data on work-based learning experiences such as internships, cooperative education programs, apprenticeships, or other similar forms of work-based learning.

Proposed law provides that the data collected and analyzed may include information such as whether the experience is paid or unpaid, the duration of the placement, and whether the placement is part of a registered or credential-aligned program.

Proposed law provides that any procedures developed must ensure the collection and analysis of data necessary to encourage and capture any work-based learning credits an individual may have earned and the appropriate manner in which such credits may be awarded.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 17:3138.2 and 3138.13(C))