Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 421

BY REPRESENTATIVES PONTI AND THOMPSON

1 AN ACT 2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:2156(C)(3), relative to contractor license renewal fees; to 3 provide for an additional fee; to provide for an option to not participate; to provide 4 for dedication and allocation of the fee; to provide for distribution to accredited 5 public university or community college schools of construction management or 6 construction technology; and to provide for related matters. 7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 8 Section 1. R.S. 37:2156(C)(3) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows: 9 §2156. Unexpired licenses; fees; renewals 10 11 C. 12 13 (3)(a) The board shall include on each license renewal form issued to a 14 contractor an optional election whereby the contractor may choose to donate 15 additional funds to a specified public university or community college foundation 16 within Louisiana that offers an accredited, degreed program in the field of 17 construction management. Any such donated funds received by the board shall be 18 remitted to the foundation chosen by the contractor. Any such donated funds 19 received by the community college foundation shall be used solely for the benefit of 20 their construction management programs. The board shall assess on each license 21 renewal issued to a contractor an additional fee of one hundred dollars per year to be 22 dedicated and allocated as provided in this Paragraph to any public university in this 23 state or any community college school of construction management or construction 24 technology in this state that is accredited by either the American Council for

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

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Construction Education or the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology.

The board shall include on each license renewal form issued to a contractor an optional election whereby the contractor may choose to not participate in the remission of the additional one hundred dollar dedication fee.

- (b) The board shall provide by rule for accounting and remittance of donations to the appropriate university or community college foundation. Each January, each accredited public university or community college school of construction management or construction technology shall report to the board the number of graduates from its school of construction management or construction technology from the previous calendar year.
- (c) For purposes of this Paragraph, "foundation" shall mean any private nonprofit corporation which supports public higher education institutions as defined by R.S. 17:3390. Any and all funds collected pursuant to this Paragraph shall be disbursed to the accredited public university or community college schools of construction management or construction technology by August first of each year upon completion of the annual audit of the board. The funds shall be used by the accredited public university or community college schools of construction management or construction technology solely for the benefit of their program and the expenditure of such funds shall be approved by the industry advisory council or board for the program. The funds collected pursuant to this Paragraph shall be in addition to any other monies received by such schools and are intended to supplement and not replace, displace, or supplant any other funds received from the state or from any other source. Any school of construction management or construction technology that experiences a decrease in the funding appropriated to them by the accredited public university or community college as determined by the industry advisory council or board for the program shall be ineligible for participation under the provisions of this Paragrah, and the monies from the fund for such school of construction management or construction technology shall be redistributed on a pro rata basis to all other accredited and eligible schools.

1 (d) The funds collected pursuant to this Subsection shall be distributed as 2 follows: 3 (i) One-half on a pro rata basis to each accredited public university or 4 community college school of construction management or construction technology. 5 (ii) One-half pro rata to each accredited public university school of 6 construction management or construction technology based on the total number of 7 graduates from the previous calendar year from each school as reported to the board. 8 (e) No funds shall be allocated to any public university or community 9 college school of construction management or construction technology that does not 10 maintain current and active accreditation as required by this Paragraph. 11 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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APPROVED: _____