

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 81

BY SENATORS BUFFINGTON AND CLAITOR

POSTSECONDARY ED. Requires the boards of supervisors for the Louisiana State University, Southern University, University of Louisiana and Louisiana Community and Technical College systems to broadcast the live audio and video of all board and committee meetings conducted in Baton Rouge over the Internet. (1/1/15)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 17:1455.1, 1831.1, 1853.1, and 1872.1, relative to university systems management boards; to provide for live broadcasts over the Internet of meetings of the boards and their committees; to provide for recording and archiving of such broadcasts; to provide for public access to such archived meetings; to provide a special effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:1455.1, 1831.1, 1853.1, and 1872.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1455.1. Internet broadcast of board and committee meetings; archives

A. The board shall broadcast over the Internet live audio and video streams of all its board and committee meetings held in Baton Rouge.

B. All meetings broadcast in accordance with Subsection A of this Section shall be recorded, archived, and made accessible to the public for at least one year after the date of the meeting.

C. The provisions of this Section shall apply to all meetings of the board and its committees, but shall not apply to executive sessions held in accordance

1 with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law as provided in R.S. 42:11 et seq.

2 D. The audio and video records created pursuant to this Section shall not
3 be construed in a manner to be the official record, or any part of the official
4 record, of the proceedings of a meeting of the board or any of its committees.

5 E. If the board is precluded from fulfilling the requirements of this
6 Section due to a technical problem beyond its control, or when the only meeting
7 room available lacks the equipment necessary to facilitate Internet broadcasts,
8 the failure to broadcast or record the proceedings of a meeting of the board or
9 any of its committees shall not be construed to be a violation of the provisions
10 of this Section.

11 * * *

12 §1831.1. Internet broadcast of board and committee meetings; archives

13 A. The board shall broadcast over the Internet live audio and video
14 streams of all its board and committee meetings held in Baton Rouge.

15 B. All meetings broadcast in accordance with Subsection A of this
16 Section shall be recorded, archived, and made accessible to the public for at
17 least one year after the date of the meeting.

18 C. The provisions of this Section shall apply to all meetings of the board
19 and its committees, but shall not apply to executive sessions held in accordance
20 with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law as provided in R.S. 42:11 et seq.

21 D. The audio and video records created pursuant to this Section shall not
22 be construed in a manner to be the official record, or any part of the official
23 record, of the proceedings of a meeting of the board or any of its committees.

24 E. If the board is precluded from fulfilling the requirements of this
25 Section due to a technical problem beyond its control, or when the only meeting
26 room available lacks the equipment necessary to facilitate Internet broadcasts,
27 the failure to broadcast or record the proceedings of a meeting of the board or
28 any of its committees shall not be construed to be a violation of the provisions
29 of this Section.

* * *

§1853.1. Internet broadcast of board and committee meetings; archives

A. The board shall broadcast over the Internet live audio and video streams of all its board and committee meetings held in Baton Rouge.

B. All meetings broadcast in accordance with Subsection A of this Section shall be recorded, archived, and made accessible to the public for at least one year after the date of the meeting.

C. The provisions of this Section shall apply to all meetings of the board and its committees, but shall not apply to executive sessions held in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law as provided in R.S. 42:11 et seq.

D. The audio and video records created pursuant to this Section shall not be construed in a manner to be the official record, or any part of the official record, of the proceedings of a meeting of the board or any of its committees.

E. If the board is precluded from fulfilling the requirements of this Section due to a technical problem beyond its control, or when the only meeting room available lacks the equipment necessary to facilitate Internet broadcasts, the failure to broadcast or record the proceedings of a meeting of the board or any of its committees shall not be construed to be a violation of the provisions of this Section.

* * *

§1872.1. Internet broadcast of board and committee meetings; archives

A. The board shall broadcast over the Internet live audio and video streams of all its board and committee meetings held in Baton Rouge.

B. All meetings broadcast in accordance with Subsection A of this Section shall be recorded, archived, and made accessible to the public for at least one year after the date of the meeting.

C. The provisions of this Section shall apply to all meetings of the board and its committees, but shall not apply to executive sessions held in accordance with the Louisiana Open Meetings Law as provided in R.S. 42:11 et seq.

1 **D. The audio and video records created pursuant to this Section shall not**
2 **be construed in a manner to be the official record, or any part of the official**
3 **record, of the proceedings of a meeting of the board or any of its committees.**

4 **E. If the board is precluded from fulfilling the requirements of this**
5 **Section due to a technical problem beyond its control, or when the only meeting**
6 **room available lacks the equipment necessary to facilitate Internet broadcasts,**
7 **the failure to broadcast or record the proceedings of a meeting of the board or**
8 **any of its committees shall not be construed to be a violation of the provisions**
9 **of this Section.**

10 Section 2. The provisions of this Act shall become effective January 1, 2015.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

Buffington (SB 81)

Present law (R.S. 42:5 et seq.) provides for open meetings for public bodies and authorizes the live broadcast and recording of such meetings.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires that all meetings conducted in Baton Rouge by the boards of supervisors for the Louisiana State University (LSU) system, the Southern University (SU) system, the University of Louisiana (UL) system, and the Louisiana Community and Technical College (LCTCS) system or any of their committees be broadcast live over the Internet.

Proposed law requires that all broadcasts be recorded, archived, and made accessible to the public for at least one year after the meeting date.

Proposed law does not apply to executive sessions held in accordance with the La. Open Meetings Law (R.S. 42:11 et seq.).

Proposed law provides that the audio and video records created pursuant to proposed law not be construed in a manner to be the official record, or any part of the official record, of the proceedings of a meeting of the board or any of its committees.

Proposed law provides that if any of the boards are precluded from fulfilling the requirements of proposed law due to a technical problem beyond its control, or when the only meeting room available lacks the equipment necessary to facilitate Internet broadcasts, the failure to broadcast or record the proceedings of a meeting of the board or any of its committees shall not be construed to be a violation of proposed law.

Effective January 1, 2015.

(Adds R.S. 17:1455.1, 1831.1, 1853.1, and 1872.1)