
DIGEST

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HB 636 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

LaFleur

Abstract: Provides relative to the prevention of and penalties for hazing on the postsecondary level.

Present law defines "hazing", "organization", "pledging", and "postsecondary education institution". Proposed law retains present law. Proposed law further defines "hearing panel" and "student organizational advisor".

Prohibition and Penalties

Present law prohibits hazing and requires anyone who violates present law prohibiting hazing to be expelled, suspended, or dismissed from the institution he attends and not permitted to return for at least one semester. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law further provides for the following penalties:

- (1) For an institution, a two- year prohibition on the State Bond Commission authorizing the institution to incur any debt.
- (2) For an organization, suspension, expulsion, deactivation, loss of recognition, or other sanctions deemed appropriate. If a violation by an organization results in the death of a person, permanent banishment.

Prevention

Present law requires each new student to be provided educational information on the dangers of and prohibition on hazing during the new student orientation process in the form of a handbook. Proposed law retains the present law educational information distribution requirement but requires the information to be distributed to students either in-person or electronically, instead of in a handbook.

Present law requires such information to be provided to the parent of a student if the student is a minor. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law requires the Bd. of Regents to develop and adopt a uniform policy on hazing prevention. Proposed law instead requires the board, in consultation with each postsecondary education management board, to establish uniform policies and best practices to address the reporting of hazing on campuses and the prevention of hazing.

Victim Support

Proposed law requires each organization as defined by present law to make available and provide information about resources to a student who is an alleged victim of hazing, including information on how to access medical and reporting resources and counseling.

Reporting

Present law requires that if an organization takes disciplinary action against a member for hazing, it is required to report the incident to the institution, and subsequently requires the institution to report the incident to law enforcement. Proposed law instead requires the organization to make both reports, in addition to the institution to reporting to law enforcement.

Proposed law requires each public postsecondary education institution to maintain a publicly accessible website with information on hazing incidents and the corresponding discipline taken.

Proposed law requires the Bd. of Regents to submit an annual report to the House and Senate committees on education, the House Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice, the House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure, and the House and Senate select committee on women and children with the information that was published on the website required by proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 17:1801; Repeals R.S. 17:1801.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original bill:

1. Change responsibility for the development of standardized forms for organizations and institutions to report hazing incidents from the Bd. of Regents, in consultation with each public postsecondary education management board, to each postsecondary education management board, in consultation with the Bd. of Regents.
2. Authorize, instead of require, organizations and institutions use such standardized forms.
3. Authorize institutions to use third party reporting software instead of such standardized forms.
4. Remove a 25-year suspension of an organization's operational privileges as a possible sanction for a hazing incident that results in a death connected to the organization.