
The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

DIGEST

Present constitution creates the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical (Board of Supervisors) to manage the Louisiana Community College System. Requires that they include all programs of public postsecondary vocational-technical training and institutions of higher education which offer associate degrees but not baccalaureate degrees. Requires that the system be comprised of two divisions: the vocational-technical division which includes all public postsecondary vocational-technical schools and the community college division which includes the community colleges. Provides that all such programs and institutions be supervised and managed by the Board of Supervisors subject to powers vested in the Board of Regents.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains these provisions but removes requirement that the Board of Supervisors supervise and manage its programs and institutions subject to the powers vested in the Board of Regents.

Present constitution requires the Board to meet with the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education at least twice a year to coordinate programs of public elementary, secondary, vocational-technical, career, and higher education.

Proposed constitutional amendment retains these provisions but requires that the Board of Supervisors perform this function as to those programs under its authority.

Present constitution requires that the Board of Regents have certain powers, duties, and responsibilities relating to public institutions of postsecondary education. Proposed constitutional amendment retains this authority with the Board of Regents but only as to those institutions not under the authority of the Board of Supervisors. These powers, duties, and responsibilities as to institutions under the authority of the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges include studying the need and feasibility of creating new institutions of postsecondary education, including the establishing of branch institutions or converting non-degree granting institutions to institutions that grant degrees; converting a college or university limited to offering lower rank degrees to a college or university that offers baccalaureate degrees; merging any institutions of postsecondary education; making written reports and recommendations as to the creation of new or merger of institutions; the formulation and revision of a master plan for postsecondary education, including a formula for equitable distribution of funds to the institutions of postsecondary education; and the submission of an annual budget proposal for operational needs and capital needs.

Specifies submission of the amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held on October 22, 2011.

(Amends Const. Art. VIII, Sec. 5(A), (D)(intro para), (3), (4) and (5), and Sec. 7.1(A))