Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE BILL NO. 560

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARMODY

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR: Provides relative to the duties of the Legislative Auditor relative to conducting performance audits of postsecondary education institutions

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 17:3139(E), relative to performance audits of postsecondary education institutions; to authorize the Legislative auditor to perform such audits; to provide requirements for such audits; to provide relative to the powers and duties of the legislative auditor in relation to such audits; to provide for the costs of such audits; to provide relative to the duties of the postsecondary institutions in relation to such audits; to provide relative to the duties of the Board of Regents in relation to such audits; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 17:3139(E) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§3139. Louisiana Granting Resources and Autonomy for Diplomas Act; purpose; agreements; monitoring and renewal; reporting

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E. Legislative auditor; performance analysis. ~~Within six months after entering into a performance agreement pursuant to this Section, an institution shall provide to the legislative auditor all information that the auditor requests to conduct a detailed study of the performance of postsecondary education in Louisiana. The institutions shall provide information that will allow the auditor to analyze how well goals and objectives of postsecondary education are being met and to perform an economy and efficiency study. Such information shall include but shall not be~~

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~~limited to information relative to staffing levels, hiring and compensation practices, employee productivity and discipline, and performance management. This Subsection shall only be effective in the event that funds are appropriated to effect these provisions.~~ (1) In order to determine how well postsecondary institutions are performing in meeting goals and objectives, the legislative auditor shall, in consultation and coordination with the Board of Regents, conduct periodic performance audits of the efficiency and effectiveness of postsecondary education institutions in Louisiana. These performance audits shall include an examination of indicators of student success such as: retention rates for first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students and transfer students; four, six, and eight year graduation rates for first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students and transfer students; the average time it takes for first-time, full-time students to obtain a degree; the fraction of undergraduate body graduating each year with baccalaureate degrees or associate degrees; and the number of graduates who obtained employment, including the number who utilized an institution's job placement services. The institutions shall provide the legislative auditor with all of the information that the auditor requests to conduct the performance audits of postsecondary education in Louisiana.

(2) The legislative auditor shall audit each institution's data submitted or to be submitted to the Board of Regents as indicators of progress towards meeting its targets for its performance objectives to ensure that the data is reliable. The institutions shall provide to the legislative auditor all of the information that the auditor requests to conduct the audit of the date related to targets and performance objectives.

(3) No provision of this Section shall limit the authority of the auditor under the provisions of R.S. 24:513. The Legislative Auditor shall charge the actual costs related to performance audits performed pursuant to this Subsection to the institution being audited. The legislative auditor shall provide the legislature with reports on the results of the performance audits.

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Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Carmody HB No. 560

Abstract:

Present law requires the legislative auditor to conduct a performance audit of a postsecondary institution within 6 months of entering into a performance agreement with such institution. Further provides that the institution shall provide certain information to the auditor so that he can audit "how well goals and objectives of postsecondary education are being met" and so that he can perform an economy and efficiency study.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law authorizes the auditor to conduct periodic performance audits of postsecondary institutions. Provides that the auditor shall work in consultation and coordination with the Board of Regents to conduct such audits.

Proposed law requires the audit to include an examination of indicators of student success and lists examples of such indicators.

Proposed law provides that the institution shall supply the auditor with all the information he requests in the execution of his performance audit. Further provides that all data submitted to, or to be submitted to, the Board of Regents by any postsecondary institution shall also be audited by the legislative auditor as indicators of the institution's progress towards meetings its performance objectives.

Proposed law provides that it does not limit the powers or authority of the legislative auditor under present law. Further provides that the actual costs of any audit performed pursuant to proposed law shall be charged to the institution being audited. Proposed law also provides that the auditor shall provide the legislature with reports on the results of performance audits conducted under proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:3139(E))

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