

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 421

BY REPRESENTATIVE PONTI

CONTRACTORS: Adds a fee at license renewal for contractors dedicated to certain schools of construction management or construction technology

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 dedication and allocation of the fee; to
4 provide for distribution to accredited public university or community college schools
5 of construction management or construction technology; and to provide for related
6 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

1 renewal issued to a contractor, except license renewals issued for residential
2 construction, an additional fee of one hundred dollars per year to be dedicated and
3 allocated to any public university or community college school of construction
4 management or construction technology which is accredited by either the American
5 Council for Construction Education or the Accreditation Board for Engineering and
6 Technology. No funds shall be allocated to any public university or community
7 college school of construction management or construction technology that does not
8 maintain current and active accreditation as required by this Paragraph.

9 (b) ~~The board shall provide by rule for accounting and remittance of~~
10 ~~donations to the appropriate university or community college foundation. Each~~
11 January, each accredited public university or community college school of
12 construction management or construction technology shall report to the board the
13 number of graduates from its school of construction management or construction
14 technology from the previous calendar year.

15 (c) ~~For purposes of this Paragraph, "foundation" shall mean any private~~
16 ~~nonprofit corporation which supports public higher education institutions as defined~~
17 ~~by R.S. 17:3390. Any and all funds collected pursuant to this Paragraph shall be~~
18 disbursed to the accredited public university or community college schools of
19 construction management or construction technology by August first of the year in
20 which such funds are collected. The funds shall be used by the accredited public
21 university or community college schools of construction management or construction
22 technology solely for the benefit of their program and shall be in addition to any
23 other monies received by such schools. The funds collected pursuant to this
24 Paragraph are intended to supplement and not replace, displace, or supplant any other
25 funds received from the state or from any other source. Any school of construction
26 management or construction technology that experiences a decrease in the funding
27 appropriated to them by the accredited public university or community college to a
28 level that falls below the amount of funding received in the 2012 school year, shall
29 be ineligible for participation under the provisions of this Paragraph, and the monies

1 from the fund for such school of construction management or construction
2 technology shall be redistributed on a pro rata basis to all other accredited and
3 eligible schools.

4 (d) The funds collected pursuant to this Subsection shall be distributed as
5 follows:

6 (i) One half on a pro rata basis to each accredited public university or
7 community college school of construction management or construction technology.

8 (ii) One half pro rata to each accredited public university school of
9 construction management or construction technology based on the total number of
10 graduates from the previous calendar year from each school as reported to the board.

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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)]

Ponti

HB No. 421

Abstract: Adds a license renewal fee for certain contractors dedicated to public university and community college schools of construction management or construction technology.

Present law provides for renewal of licenses for contractors. Allows for the licensing board for contractors to include on each license renewal form an optional election to allow for the donation of additional funds to a specified public university or community college foundation, which shall be remitted to the chosen foundation to be used solely for construction management programs.

Proposed law deletes present law with regard to optional donations and instead requires the board to assess on each license renewal for contractors, except those issued for residential construction, an additional fee of \$100 per year to be dedicated to public university or community college schools of construction management or construction technology. Requires the schools to be accredited by either of two national accreditation boards and requires the schools to maintain accreditation in order to receive funding.

Proposed law further requires the schools to report to the board the number of graduates from the previous calendar year. Requires the disbursement of the funds collected to be by Aug. 1 of the year in which they are collected.

Proposed law further requires that the funds be used solely for the benefit of the accredited public university or community college schools of construction management or construction technology and shall be in addition to any other monies received by such schools. Provides that should the funding level of the schools fall below the amount of funding received in the 2012 school year, the school shall be ineligible to receive monies from the fund. Distributes the funds one half pro rata to each accredited public university and community college

school and one half pro rata to each public university school based on the total number of graduates from the previous year as reported to the board by each school.

(Amends R.S. 37:2156(C)(3))