DIGEST

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HB 510 Original

2016 Regular Session

Jay Morris

Abstract: Authorizes the legislature to close or merge higher education institutions with a six-year graduation rate of less than 12%.

<u>Present constitution</u> creates the Bd. of Regents to plan, coordinate, and have budgetary responsibility for all public postsecondary education. Grants the board specific powers including the creation of new institutions and the elimination of programs.

<u>Proposed constitutional amendment</u> authorizes the legislature to provide for the closure or merger with another institution of any institution that has a six-year graduation rate of less than 12% over any five consecutive year period. Provides that any such law shall provide for the allocation of the assets and liabilities, the transfer of the students, the employment status of classified employees, the disposition of property, the successor of the institution for purposes of any pending legal action, and any other provision necessary for full dissolution of an institution.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Nov. 8, 2016.

(Adds Const. Art. VIII, §5(F))