

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 433

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARTER

HIGHER ED/BD REGENTS: Authorizes the Board of Regents to enter into interstate reciprocity agreements relative to online instruction

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 17:1808(J)(1) and (K) and 3141.15(G) and to enact R.S.
3 17:1808(L) and 3141.15(H), relative to reciprocity agreements that provide for
4 interstate, online, postsecondary education; to authorize the Board of Regents to
5 enter into and administer such agreements; to provide for participation by institutions
6 in interstate, online education; to provide for application fees; and to provide for
7 related matters.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

9 Section 1. R.S. 17:1808(J)(1) and (K) and 3141.15(G) are hereby amended and
10 reenacted and R.S. 17:1808(L) and 3141.15(H) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §1808. Registration and licensure of postsecondary, academic degree-granting
12 institutions

13 * * *

14 J.(1) Each public and independent institution of higher education funded in
15 whole or in part through general appropriations of the state of Louisiana in Fiscal
16 Year 1992 or which is specifically eligible for funding under the provisions of R.S.
17 17:2053(D) or which was a member of the Louisiana Association of Independent
18 Colleges and Universities on January 1, 2001, shall be exempt from the provisions
19 of this Section except as provided in Subsection K of this Section.

20 * * *

1 member states pursuant to the terms of the reciprocity agreement. The Board of
2 Regents shall administer such agreements.

3 (2) If the Board of Regents enters into such an agreement, any accredited
4 degree-granting proprietary schools located in Louisiana and licensed by the Board
5 of Regents pursuant to this Chapter may apply to the Board of Regents for
6 authorization to offer online instruction in other member states pursuant to the terms
7 of the reciprocity agreement. The Board of Regents may approve or disapprove any
8 such application. If the Board of Regents approves an application, the period of
9 approval shall not be longer than one year. The Board of Regents shall assess an
10 application fee not to exceed one thousand five hundred dollars for an initial and
11 each annual application to defray the costs of reviewing and evaluating such
12 applications.

13 (3) Any accredited, degree-granting proprietary school approved by another
14 member state and offering online instruction to Louisiana residents shall be exempt
15 from the provisions of this Chapter, subject to the terms of such agreements.

16 H. Nothing herein shall impair the right of private colleges to award degrees.

17 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
18 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
19 by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
20 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
21 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)]

Carter

HB No. 433

Abstract: Authorizes the Board of Regents to enter interstate agreements that would provide for interstate, online, postsecondary education; provides for application and application fee for La. institutions wishing to offer such instruction in other states pursuant to the agreement.

Present law provides for licensure by the Board of Regents of postsecondary, academic degree-granting institutions in order to ensure that the instruction at such institutions meets

minimal academic and physical plant standards. Provides for licensure of proprietary schools, which are schools that are operated as a business enterprise. Provides details with respect to such licensure.

Proposed law authorizes the Board of Regents to enter into state authorization reciprocity agreements that allow proprietary schools and accredited academic degree-granting institutions located in one member state to offer online instruction in other member states pursuant to the terms of the reciprocity agreement. Provides that if the Board of Regents enters into such an agreement, such institutions or proprietary schools located in La. may apply to the Board of Regents for authorization to offer online instruction in other member states pursuant to the terms of the reciprocity agreement. Requires annual reapplication and authorizes the Board of Regents to assess an application fee of up to \$1,500. Provides that institutions and proprietary schools in other states offering online instruction to La. residents are exempt from present law licensure requirements, subject to the terms of such agreements.

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

(Amends R.S. 17:1808(J)(1) and (K) and 3141.15(G); Adds R.S. 17:1808(L) and 3141.15(H))