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Agenda

Statewide Programs

Wednesday, September 24, 2025
11:20 AM

Claiborne Building, 1st Floor ▪ Louisiana Purchase Room 1–100
1201 N. Third St. ▪ Baton Rouge, LA 70802

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. National Recovery Month
- IV. Clarification of Board of Regents Program Contract Structure
- V. Other Business
- VI. Adjournment

Committee Members: Wilbert D. Pryor, Chair; Samer Shamieh, Vice Chair; Phillip May Jr.; Christy Oliver Reeves; Terri Sterling; Devesh Sarda (Student Member)
Staff: Carrie Robison, Deputy Commissioner for Research and Sponsored Initiatives

Agenda Item IV.

Clarification of Board of Regents Program Contract Structure

Background Information

The Board of Regents (BOR) has several programs placed under it by law, such as the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) and Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA). As such, the Board serves as the governing board for those programs. Historically, these programs had their own governing boards, but those boards were eliminated and the programs were placed within BOR by Act 314 of 2016.

Staff Summary

Partly due to historical practices, some of the contracts to which LOSFA and LUMCON are parties still are executed in the name of the program, i.e., LOSFA or LUMCON, rather than the Board of Regents; however, these programs no longer have the legal authority to enter into contracts.

R.S. 17:3454 designates BOR as the fiscal agent and governing body of LUMCON, authorizes BOR to enter into contracts and other agreements with other public agencies for LUMCON, and deems any liability of LUMCON as that of BOR. R.S. 17:3023 similarly eliminates the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission, the former governing board of LOSFA, and transfers all of its powers to BOR, including the administration of the various student scholarship and loan programs.

It is evident from the law that any contract of LUMCON and LOSFA is a contract of BOR, even if entered into in LUMCON or LOSFA's name, respectively. Staff recommends that the Board deem such contracts as properly those of BOR. Future contracts will appropriately reflect the structure as codified in the statutes referenced above.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The Senior Staff recommend the Board recognize all contracts entered into in the name of LUMCON or LOSFA as properly those of the Board of Regents.