

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40316-MK-77

Short Title: Various Higher Education Changes. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Fraley.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO HIGHER EDUCATION LAWS, AS
3 RECOMMENDED BY THE STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND THE
4 BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6
7 **PART I. THE NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM**

8 **SECTION 1.1.(a)** Reporting Changes. – G.S. 115D-5(b2) reads as rewritten:

9 "(b2) Beginning February 1, 2018, and annually thereafter, the ~~State Board of Community~~
10 Colleges System Office shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee on
11 the number and type of waivers granted pursuant to subsection (b) of this section."

12 **SECTION 1.1.(b)** G.S. 115D-5.1(f) reads as rewritten:

13 "(f) The ~~State Board Community Colleges System Office~~ shall report ~~on an annual basis~~
14 no later than September 1 of each year to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee
15 on:

- 16 (1) The total amount of funds received by a company under the Customized
17 Training ~~Program;Program.~~
18 (1a) The types of services sought by the company, whether for new, expanding, or
19 existing industry.
20 (2) The amount of funds per trainee received by that ~~company;company.~~
21 (3) The amount of funds received per trainee by the community college delivering
22 the ~~training;training.~~
23 (4) The number of trainees trained by the company and community ~~college;~~
24 and college.
25 (5) The number of years that company has been funded."

26 **SECTION 1.1.(c)** G.S. 115D-9(g) reads as rewritten:

27 "(g) The ~~State Board Community Colleges System Office~~ shall annually report to the State
28 Building Commission the following:

- 29 (1) A list of projects governed by this section.
30 (2) The estimated cost of each project along with the actual cost.
31 (3) The name of each person awarded a contract under this section.
32 (4) Whether the person or business awarded a contract under this section meets
33 the definition of "minority business" or "minority person" as defined in
34 G.S. 143-128.2(g)."

35 **SECTION 1.1.(d)** G.S. 115D-11.6 reads as rewritten:

36 "§ 115D-11.6. Apprenticeship Council.



1 The State Board of Community Colleges shall appoint an Apprenticeship Council composed
 2 of four representatives each from employer and employee organizations respectively and three
 3 representatives from the public at large. One State official designated by the Department of
 4 Public Instruction and one State official designated by the Department of Commerce shall be a
 5 member ex officio of the council, without vote. The terms of office of the members of the
 6 Apprenticeship Council shall be designated by the State Board. Any member appointed to fill a
 7 vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term of his or her predecessor shall be appointed
 8 for the remainder of the term. Each member of the Council not otherwise compensated by public
 9 moneys, shall be reimbursed for transportation and shall receive such per diem compensation as
 10 is provided generally for boards and commissions under the biennial maintenance appropriation
 11 acts for each day spent in attendance at meetings of the Apprenticeship Council. The State Board
 12 of Community Colleges shall annually appoint one member of the Council to act as its chair.

13 The Apprenticeship Council shall meet at the call of the State Board of Community Colleges
 14 and shall aid the State Board and the Community Colleges System Office in formulating policies
 15 for the effective administration of this Article. The Apprenticeship Council shall establish
 16 standards for apprentice agreements which in no case shall be lower than those prescribed by this
 17 Article, shall recommend rules and regulations to the State Board of Community Colleges as may
 18 be necessary to carry out the intent and purposes of this Article, and shall perform other functions
 19 as the State Board of Community Colleges may direct. ~~Not less than once a~~ No later than
 20 September 1 of each year the Apprenticeship Council shall make a report through the Community
 21 Colleges System Office of its activities and findings to the public and to the Joint Legislative
 22 Education Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources;
 23 Committee, the chairs of the Senate Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Natural, and
 24 Economic Resources; Education/Higher Education, and the chairs of the House of
 25 Representatives Appropriations Committee on ~~Agriculture and Natural and Economic~~
 26 ~~Resources.~~ Education."

27 **SECTION 1.1.(e)** G.S. 126-8.3(c) reads as rewritten:

28 "(c) The State Human Resources Commission, the State Board of Education, and the ~~State~~
 29 ~~Board of Community Colleges~~ System Office and all State agencies, departments, and
 30 institutions shall annually report to the Office of State Human Resources on the voluntary shared
 31 leave program. For the prior fiscal year, the report shall include the total number of days or hours
 32 of vacation leave and sick leave donated and used by voluntary shared leave recipients and the
 33 total cost of the vacation leave and sick leave donated and used."

34 **SECTION 1.2.** Community colleges permitted to provide insurance in lieu of bond.

35 – G.S. 115D-58.10 reads as rewritten:

36 **"§ 115D-58.10. Surety ~~bonds~~, bonds and related insurance.**

37 The State Board of Community Colleges shall determine what State employees and
 38 employees of institutions shall give bonds or be insured for the protection of State funds and
 39 property and the State Board is authorized to place the ~~bonds~~ bonds, determine adequate
 40 insurance coverage, and pay the premiums thereon from State funds.

41 The board of trustees of each institution shall require all institutional employees authorized
 42 to draw or approve checks or vouchers drawn on local funds, and all persons authorized or
 43 permitted to receive institutional funds from whatever source, and all persons responsible for or
 44 authorized to handle institutional property, to be bonded by a surety company authorized to do
 45 business with the State in such amount as the board of trustees deems sufficient for the protection
 46 of such property and funds. In lieu of a bond, the board of trustees may obtain and maintain
 47 adequate insurance coverage sufficient for the protection of institutional funds and property. The
 48 tax-levying authority of each institution shall provide the funds necessary for the payment of the
 49 premiums of ~~such bonds, the bonds or for insurance coverage.~~

50 **SECTION 1.3.(a)** Codify the President's Authority to Reorganize. – G.S. 115D-3
 51 reads as rewritten:

1 **"§ 115D-3. Community Colleges System Office; ~~staff~~; reorganization authority.**

2 (a) The Community Colleges System Office shall be a principal administrative
3 department of State government under the direction of the State Board of Community Colleges,
4 and shall be separate from the free public school system of the State, the State Board of
5 Education, and the Department of Public Instruction. The State Board has authority to adopt and
6 administer all policies, regulations, and standards which it deems necessary for the operation of
7 the System Office.

8 The State Board shall elect a President of the North Carolina System of Community Colleges
9 who shall serve as chief administrative officer of the Community Colleges System Office. The
10 compensation of this position shall be fixed by the State Board from funds provided by the
11 General Assembly in the Current Operations Appropriations Act.

12 The President shall be assisted by such professional staff members as may be deemed
13 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Chapter, who shall be elected by the State Board on
14 nomination of the President. The compensation of the staff members elected by the Board shall
15 be fixed by the State Board of Community Colleges, upon recommendation of the President of
16 the Community College System, from funds provided in the Current Operations Appropriations
17 Act. These staff members shall include such officers as may be deemed desirable by the President
18 and State Board. Provision shall be made for persons of high competence and strong professional
19 experience in such areas as academic affairs, public service programs, business and financial
20 affairs, institutional studies and long-range planning, student affairs, research, legal affairs,
21 health affairs and institutional development, and for State and federal programs administered by
22 the State Board. In addition, the President shall be assisted by such other employees as may be
23 needed to carry out the provisions of this Chapter, who shall be subject to the provisions of
24 Chapter 126 of the General Statutes. The staff complement shall be established by the State Board
25 on recommendation of the President to insure that there are persons on the staff who have the
26 professional competence and experience to carry out the duties assigned and to insure that there
27 are persons on the staff who are familiar with the problems and capabilities of all of the principal
28 types of institutions represented in the system. The State Board of Community Colleges shall
29 have all other powers, duties, and responsibilities delegated to the State Board of Education
30 affecting the Community Colleges System Office not otherwise stated in this Chapter.

31 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President may reorganize the System
32 Office in accordance with recommendations and plans submitted to and approved by the State
33 Board of Community Colleges. If a reorganization is implemented pursuant to this subsection,
34 including any movement of positions and funds between fund codes on a recurring basis, the
35 President shall report by March 1 of the fiscal year in which the reorganization occurred to the
36 Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee."

37 **SECTION 1.3.(b)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019.

38
39 **PART II. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SYSTEM**

40 **SECTION 2.1.(a)** NC Teaching Fellows Program. – G.S. 116-209.62 reads as
41 rewritten:

42 **"§ 116-209.62. North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program established; administration.**

43 ...

44 (f) Program Selection Criteria. – The Authority shall administer the Program in
45 cooperation with ~~five~~ up to eight institutions of higher education with approved educator
46 preparation programs selected by the Commission that represent a diverse selection of both
47 postsecondary constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and private
48 postsecondary institutions operating in the State. The Commission shall adopt stringent standards
49 for selection of the most effective educator preparation programs, including the following:

- 50 (1) Demonstrates high rates of educator effectiveness on value-added models and
51 teacher evaluations, including using performance-based, subject-specific

- 1 assessment and support systems, such as edTPA or other metrics of evaluating
 2 candidate effectiveness that have predictive validity.
- 3 (2) Demonstrates measurable impact of prior graduates on student learning,
 4 including impact of graduates teaching in STEM or special education
 5 licensure areas.
- 6 (3) Demonstrates high rates of graduates passing exams required for teacher
 7 licensure.
- 8 (4) Provides curricular and co-curricular enhancements in leadership, facilitates
 9 learning for diverse learners, and promotes community engagement,
 10 classroom management, and reflection and assessment.
- 11 (5) Requires at least a minor concentration of study in the subject area that the
 12 candidate may teach.
- 13 (6) Provides early and frequent internship or practical experiences, including the
 14 opportunity for participants to perform practicums in diverse school
 15 environments.
- 16 (7) Is approved by the State Board of Education as an educator preparation
 17 program.

18 (g) Awards of Forgivable Loans. – The Program shall provide forgivable loans to selected
 19 students to be used at ~~the five~~ up to eight selected institutions for completion of a program leading
 20 to initial teacher licensure as follows:

21"

22 **SECTION 2.1.(b)** G.S. 116-209.62(g)(4) reads as rewritten:

23 "(4) Students matriculating at institutions of higher education who are changing to
 24 ~~enrollment in an approved program of study at a~~ selected educator preparation
 25 program. – Forgivable loans of up to four thousand one hundred twenty-five
 26 dollars (\$4,125) per semester for up to four semesters."

27 **SECTION 2.1.(c)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2019. Subsection (a) of this
 28 section applies to the award of forgivable loans beginning with the 2020-2021 academic year.
 29 Subsection (b) of this section applies to the award of forgivable loans beginning with the
 30 2019-2020 academic year.

31 **SECTION 2.2.(a)** UNC Laboratory Schools. – G.S. 116-239.8(b)(4) reads as
 32 rewritten:

33 "(4) Food and transportation services. – The local school administrative unit in
 34 which the laboratory school is located shall provide ~~food services and~~
 35 transportation to students ~~attending who reside in the local school~~
 36 administrative unit and attend the laboratory school, including any
 37 students who are homeless and require assistance pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §
 38 11301, et seq., the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The
 39 requirement to provide transportation to students residing in the local school
 40 administrative unit shall (i) apply regardless of where a laboratory school
 41 student resides in the unit or how the unit's transportation policies and
 42 practices are applied to other students and (ii) include providing transportation
 43 of students and personnel for laboratory school extracurricular activities and
 44 educational trips in the same manner as other schools in the unit for that school
 45 year. The local school administrative unit in which the laboratory school is
 46 located shall ~~administer~~ administer, at its cost, the National School Lunch
 47 Program for the laboratory school in accordance with G.S. 115C-264. The
 48 chancellor shall arrange for the provision of these services from the local
 49 school administrative unit."

50 **SECTION 2.2.(b)** G.S. 116-239.5 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

1 "(e) In addition to all other immunities provided to them by applicable State law, the
2 Subcommittee, chancellor, the constituent institution, an advisory board, and a laboratory school,
3 and their members, employees, and agents shall be entitled to the specific immunities provided
4 for in Chapter 115C of the General Statutes applying to the State Board of Education,
5 Superintendent of Public Instruction, a local board of education, a local school administrative
6 unit, and their members and employees. Any such immunity to liability established by this
7 subsection shall not extend to gross negligence, wanton conduct, or intentional wrongdoing that
8 would otherwise be actionable. Immunity established by this subsection shall be deemed to be
9 waived to the extent of indemnification under Articles 31A and 31B of Chapter 143 of the
10 General Statutes and to the extent sovereign immunity is waived under the Tort Claims Act, as
11 set forth in Article 31 of Chapter 143 of the General Statutes."

12 **SECTION 2.2.(c)** G.S. 116-239.5(a) reads as rewritten:

13 "(a) The Board of Governors, upon recommendation by the President, shall designate at
14 least ~~nine~~six constituent institutions to submit proposals to establish laboratory schools to serve
15 public school students in accordance with the provisions of this Article. The Board of Governors
16 shall select constituent institutions with high-quality educator preparation programs as
17 demonstrated by the annual performance measures reported by the constituent institutions in
18 accordance with G.S. 115C-296.35. The Board of Governors' Subcommittee on Laboratory
19 Schools established under G.S. 116-239.7 shall review the proposals and approve at least ~~nine~~
20 six of the proposals to establish laboratory schools. The Subcommittee shall oversee the
21 operations of those laboratory schools to meet the purposes set forth in this Article."

22 **SECTION 2.2.(d)** G.S. 116-239.7(a1) reads as rewritten:

23 "(a1) Approval of Laboratory Schools. – The Board of Governors, upon the
24 recommendation of the President, shall designate at least ~~nine~~six constituent institutions to
25 establish and operate laboratory schools. The chancellor of each constituent institution shall
26 adopt and submit to the Subcommittee a proposal to operate a laboratory school in a local school
27 administrative unit that meets the minimum threshold for the number of low-performing schools
28 located in the unit under G.S. 116-239.6(4). The proposal shall include the governance structure
29 of the laboratory school. The Subcommittee shall evaluate the proposals for approval or
30 disapproval by considering the design components and the strategic focus of the laboratory
31 school and any other standards developed by the Subcommittee to be applicable to all laboratory
32 schools. The Subcommittee shall also consider the location of each laboratory school so that, to
33 the extent possible, there is a geographically diverse distribution of the laboratory schools
34 throughout the State and a maximum of one laboratory school located in a qualifying local school
35 administrative unit. From the proposals submitted to the Subcommittee, the Subcommittee shall
36 approve the establishment of at least ~~nine~~six laboratory schools."

37 **SECTION 2.2.(e)** Section 11.6(d) of S.L. 2016-94, as amended by Section 4 of S.L.
38 2017-177, reads as rewritten:

39 "**SECTION 11.6.(d)** Notwithstanding G.S. 116-239.5, at least ~~nine~~six laboratory schools
40 shall be established pursuant to Article 29A of Chapter 116 of the General Statutes, as enacted
41 by this section, and in operation by the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year."

42 **SECTION 2.2.(f)** Subsection (b) of this section applies to an action or omission of
43 an action occurring on or after the date this act becomes law. Subsection (a) of this section applies
44 beginning with the 2019-2020 school year.

45 **SECTION 2.3.(a)** Future Teachers of North Carolina. – G.S. 116-41.30(b) reads as
46 rewritten:

47 "(b) Program. – FTNC shall be a ~~program providing professional development and~~
48 ~~curricula for courses that provide selective, application-based symposium for high school juniors~~
49 ~~and seniors, offering a challenging introduction to teaching as a profession for high school~~
50 ~~students through courses offered by participating high schools in conjunction with college~~
51 ~~partners.~~profession. FTNC courses shall include both content on pedagogy and the profession

1 of teaching and field experiences for high school students. provide instruction on pedagogy, ethics
2 and professionalism, child development, successful teaching strategies and classroom
3 management practices, effective lesson planning, assessment and intervention, and requirements
4 of teacher licensure. The FTNC Symposium should provide practical benefit to participating
5 students, which may include interaction with current educators, administrators, and educator
6 preparation program faculty members, a simulated student teaching experience, and information
7 about financial aid and scholarship opportunities."

8 **SECTION 2.3.(b)** G.S. 116-41.31 reads as rewritten:

9 **"§ 116-41.31. Oversight of Future Teachers of North Carolina.**

10 (a) ~~FTNC General Administration. System Office.~~ – FTNC shall be administratively
11 located in The University of North Carolina System Office. The President shall ~~select three~~
12 ~~constituent institutions with highly successful schools of education located in the western,~~
13 ~~central, and eastern regions of the State, respectively, to collaborate on development of curricula~~
14 ~~for FTNC and to provide professional development to high school teachers who will teach FTNC~~
15 ~~courses. The three constituent institutions shall also work with other constituent institutions and~~
16 ~~other institutions of higher education in the State to seek input in the development of curricula~~
17 ~~and professional development for FTNC and to create a network of college faculty to provide~~
18 ~~support to high schools offering FTNC courses.~~ establish a Future Teachers of North Carolina
19 Advisory Council (FTNC Council) to oversee the FTNC program. At the President's discretion,
20 the FTNC Council shall coordinate with constituent institutions to utilize expertise from
21 administrators, faculty, and staff members of institutions of higher education in designing the
22 agenda and instructional content for the FTNC Symposium. The FTNC Council shall ensure
23 diverse representation of the educator preparation programs represented at the FTNC
24 Symposium. The FTNC Council shall also be responsible for creating an application process for
25 interested high school students, reviewing submitted applications, selecting students to attend,
26 and recruitment and outreach efforts.

27 (b) ~~FTNC Site Applications.~~— All high schools in the State are encouraged to offer FTNC
28 courses to students. A high school shall apply to offer FTNC courses with the geographically
29 appropriate constituent institution overseeing FTNC and shall ensure that all teachers teaching
30 FTNC courses have received appropriate training. High schools shall also seek a partner
31 institution of higher education to provide support from college faculty. High schools participating
32 in the FTNC program shall report demographic, survey, and other available outcome data to The
33 University of North Carolina System Office as necessary for completion of the FTNC annual
34 report required by G.S. 116-41.32.

35 (c) ~~FTNC Institution of Higher Education Partners.~~— Constituent institutions that partner
36 with high schools shall offer dual credit for high school students who successfully complete the
37 FTNC course with a grade of "B" or higher. Other institutions of higher education that partner
38 with high schools are encouraged to offer dual credit for high school students who successfully
39 complete the FTNC course with a grade of "B" or higher. Constituent institutions shall provide
40 annually to The University of North Carolina System Office data on students who have received
41 dual credit for completion of an FTNC course and students who applied for admission into an
42 educator preparation program at a constituent institution who indicated in the application for
43 admission that the student completed an FTNC course. Other institutions of higher education are
44 encouraged to provide annually to The University of North Carolina System Office data on
45 students who have received dual credit for completion of an FTNC course and students who
46 applied for admission into an educator preparation program at the institution of higher education
47 who indicated in the application for admission that the student completed an FTNC course."

48 **SECTION 2.3.(c)** G.S. 116-41.32 reads as rewritten:

49 **"§ 116-41.32. Future Teachers of North Carolina reporting.**

50 The University of North Carolina System Office shall report annually, beginning October 15,
51 2019, 2020, on the following:

- 1 (1) ~~Total number and names of local school administrative units with List of high~~
 2 ~~schools and local school administrative units represented by participating in~~
 3 ~~FTNC, total number and names of high schools offering FTNC, partner~~
 4 ~~institution of higher education for each high school, and number of sections~~
 5 ~~of the course being offered at each high school.~~~~students.~~
 6 (1a) Number of students who submitted an application to attend the FTNC
 7 Symposium.
 8 (1b) Number of students attending the FTNC Symposium, including distribution
 9 by region.
 10 (2) ~~Demographic information of students enrolled in FTNC courses.~~attending the
 11 FTNC Symposium.
 12 (2a) Description of the event agenda and content.
 13 (3) ~~Percentage of students who, after completing the course, attending the FTNC~~
 14 Symposium, reported the following:
 15 a. The student plans to choose teaching as a profession.
 16 a1. The student plans to enroll in a community college, a constituent
 17 institution, a private postsecondary institution located in North
 18 Carolina, or a postsecondary institution located in another state.
 19 b. ~~The course FTNC Symposium~~ was very or somewhat effective in
 20 helping the student formulate a positive perception of the education
 21 profession.
 22 c. ~~The coursework and activities FTNC Symposium~~ increased the
 23 student's knowledge of the teaching profession and other careers in
 24 education.
 25 d. ~~The field experience helped the student understand the many factors~~
 26 ~~that contribute to effective teaching.~~
 27 (4) ~~Percentage of students who completed an FTNC course who received dual~~
 28 ~~credit for successful completion of the course, by institution.~~
 29 (5) ~~Percentage of students who completed an FTNC course who applied for~~
 30 ~~admission into an educator preparation program, by institution.~~
 31 (6) ~~Number of teachers provided professional development for FTNC."~~

32 **SECTION 2.4.(a)** UNC Board of Governors Planning Task Force. – Section 36.6 of

33 S.L. 2018-5 reads as rewritten:

34 **"SECTION 36.6.(a)** There is created the UNC Board of Governors Planning Task Force.
 35 The Task Force shall consist of four current Board members appointed by the Board of
 36 Governors, one of whom shall be designated as chair. These appointments shall be made no later
 37 than August 1, 2018.

38 **SECTION 36.6.(b)** The Task Force shall conduct a systemwide analysis of the capital needs
 39 of the campuses of each constituent institution in relation to the Science Technology Engineering
 40 and Mathematics (STEM) subject area, taking into account the strengths, weaknesses,
 41 opportunities, and needs of each constituent institution, and any regional similarities and
 42 differences. The Task Force shall also consider the impact of any relevant programmatic planning
 43 elements being currently utilized that could be implemented as a best-practice among other
 44 similar programmatic areas to encourage systemwide efficiencies. In particular, the Task Force
 45 shall consider the capital needs relating to the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina
 46 University, the UNC Applied Physical Sciences and Institute for Convergent Science in Chapel
 47 Hill, and other STEM projects to determine areas where capital funds may be used more
 48 efficiently and effectively. The Task Force shall use the information gathered pursuant to this
 49 subsection to compile a UNC System Plan.

50 **SECTION 36.6.(c)** The three million dollars (\$3,000,000) appropriated to the Board of
 51 Governors of The University of North Carolina in Section 36.2 of this act shall be used by the

1 Task Force in conducting the analysis described in subsection (b) of this section. The Task Force
2 shall submit a preliminary report on or before April 1, 2019. On or before April 1, 2019, February
3 1, 2020, the Task Force shall submit a final report containing the UNC System Plan and any
4 legislative recommendations to the Joint Legislative Capital Improvements Oversight Committee
5 and the Fiscal Research Division.

6 **SECTION 36.6.(d)** The funds appropriated in Section 36.2 of this act to the Board of
7 Governors for the Task Force for the 2018-2019 fiscal year shall not revert at the end of the
8 2018-2019 fiscal year but shall remain available until the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year for
9 the purposes set forth in this section."

10 **SECTION 2.4.(b)** This section becomes effective June 30, 2019.

11 **SECTION 2.5.(a)** UNC Enrollment Growth Funds. – The funds appropriated by S.L.
12 2018-5 for enrollment adjustments for The University of North Carolina, including funds for the
13 NC Promise Tuition Plan, to a reserve account in the Office of State Budget and Management
14 for the 2018-2019 fiscal year shall not revert at the end of the 2018-2019 fiscal year but shall
15 remain available until the end of the 2019-2020 fiscal year for the purpose of the "buy down" of
16 any financial obligations resulting from the established tuition rate under G.S. 116-143.11
17 incurred by Elizabeth City State University, the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, and
18 Western Carolina University or for rapid growth at any of those constituent institutions.

19 **SECTION 2.5.(b)** This section becomes effective June 30, 2019.

20
21 **PART III. EFFECTIVE DATE**

22 **SECTION 3.** Except as otherwise provided in this act, this act is effective when it
23 becomes law.