SB176 ENGROSSED



- 1 DQA6HH-2
- 2 By Senators Orr, Albritton, Livingston, Butler, Allen,
- 3 Waggoner, Roberts, Jones
- 4 RFD: Finance and Taxation Education
- 5 First Read: 05-Apr-23
- 6 2023 Regular Session



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| 4 | A BILL |
| 5 | TO BE ENTITLED |
| 6 | AN ACT |
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| 8 | To create the Students' Right to Know Act of 2023; to |
| 9 | require the Alabama Commission on Higher Education to collect |
| 10 | data and create an interactive online tool for students for |
| 11 | use in making informed decisions relating to education and |
| 12 | professions; and to require the commission and Workforce |
| 13 | Development Division of the Department of Commerce to share |
| 14 | data and information as necessary to comply with this act. |
| 15 | BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA: |
| 16 | Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as |
| 17 | the Students' Right to Know Act of 2023. |
| 18 | Section 2. This act requires the Alabama Commission on |
| 19 | Higher Education to provide information to students to allow |
| 20 | those students to make informed decisions about their |
| 21 | education and professional future. |
| 22 | Section 3. As used in this act, the following terms |
| 23 | shall have the following meanings: |
| 24 | (1) COMMISSION. The Alabama Commission on Higher |
| 25 | Education. |
| 26 | (2) DIVISION. The Workforce Development Division of the |
| 27 | Department of Commerce that administers or oversees the |
| 28 | state's workforce programs, state job board, or any type of |



- 29 workforce program that receives funding from the United States
- 30 Department of Labor.
- 31 Section 4. The commission shall collect and compile all
- 32 of the following information on an annual basis:
- 33 (1) The 50 most in-demand jobs in the state and their
- 34 corresponding starting salaries and education level
- 35 requirements.
- 36 (2) The average cost for all colleges and universities
- 37 in the state.
- 38 (3) The average monthly student loan payment for
- individuals attending colleges and universities in the state,
- 40 by institution.
- 41 (4) The average three-year student loan default rate
- for all colleges and universities in the state.
- 43 (5) The average total student loan debt for graduates
- of colleges and universities, for two-year, four-year, and
- 45 graduate programs.
- 46 (6) The average four-year graduation rate for all
- 47 universities in the state.
- 48 (7) The average graduation rate for all community
- 49 colleges in the state.
- 50 (8) The completion rates for apprenticeship programs,
- 51 high school credential programs, and career and technical
- 52 education programs.
- 53 (9) The average salary one year after graduation by
- 54 college or university major.
- 55 (10) The average salary one year after completion of an
- 56 apprenticeship program, high school credential program, or



- 57 career and technical education program.
- 58 (11) The base pay for newly enlisted service members.
- 59 Section 5. (a) The commission shall create an
- 60 interactive online tool, known as the Student Horizon
- Database, to publish and provide to individuals information
- including, but not limited to, the following:
- (1) The 50 most popular education programs in colleges,
- 04 universities, and career and technical education programs in
- 65 the state based on information collected in Section 4.
- 66 (2) A searchable database capable of comparing all of
- the following based on users' selections:
- a. Average annual cost, including average financial
- 69 assistance.
- 70 b. Average annual cost, not including any financial
- 71 assistance.
- 72 c. Graduation rate.
- d. Average salary after attending, but not completing,
- 74 a college or university program.
- 75 e. Average salary for individuals completing one of the
- 76 five most popular majors at a college or university.
- f. Full-time enrollment.
- 78 g. Percentage of students not in default of student
- 79 loans.
- h. Average total debt after graduation.
- i. Percentage of students receiving federal loans.
- j. Average monthly student loan payments for graduates.
- 83 k. Average monthly student loan payments for
- 84 nongraduates.



- 85 1. Percentage of students who return after their first 86
- 87 m. Graduation, withdrawal, transfer, and current 88 enrollment rates for students within eight semesters after

year.

enrollment.

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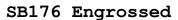
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- 90 (b) The database shall allow students to have the 91 option of selecting a specific major or course of study at a 92 specific institution, and be able to reasonably identify all 93 of the information referenced in this section.
 - Section 6. On or before October 31, 2024, and each October thereafter, the commission shall publish and make available to high school students a Student Graduate Horizon Scorecard that shall contain all of the following data, collected and aggregated pursuant to this act:
- 99 (1) The 50 highest paying four-year degrees.
- (2) The 20 highest paying career and technical 100 101 education and certificate programs.
- 102 (3) The 25 most in-demand jobs in the state and their 103 corresponding starting salaries and education requirements.
- 104 (4) The base pay, benefits, and average signing bonus 105 for enlistment in the military, along with the necessary Armed 106 Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) score by the 107 military branch.
- 108 Section 7. The commission shall issue an annual report 109 to the Legislature outlining the effectiveness of colleges, universities, or any other postsecondary education 110 institutions accepting public funding in aligning their 111 112 curricula or programs with the state job market, including the



- 113 degree to which they contribute to filling the most in-demand
- jobs in the state.
- Section 8. The commission and the division shall enter
- into a memorandum of understanding to share any data or
- information necessary to comply with this act.
- 118 Section 9. To satisfy the requirements of this act, the
- 119 commission may do either of the following:
- 120 (1) Utilize and incorporate preexisting databases, such
- 121 as the United States College Scorecard, administered by the
- 122 federal department of education, as well as any other data
- 123 sets available to the commission.
- 124 (2) Compel colleges and universities to collect and
- 125 provide information or data as necessary.
- 126 Section 10. The commission shall adopt any necessary
- 127 rules to implement this act.
- 128 Section 11. This act shall become effective January 1,
- 129 2024, following its passage and approval by the Governor, or
- 130 its otherwise becoming law.





131 132 133 Senate Read for the first time and referred06-Apr-23 to the Senate committee on Finance 135 and Taxation Education 136 137 138 Read for the second time and placed11-Apr-23 on the calendar: 139 0 amendments 140 141 Read for the third time and passed16-May-23 142 143 as amended Yeas 34 144 Nays 0 145 Abstains 0 146 147 148 Patrick Harris, 149 150 Secretary. 151