

# HB 119

Representative  
Hughes

# HBCU Advisory Council Updates

## THE GOAL

This bill will further enrich the work of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Advisory Council, which was created by the Legislature in 2018. It will add HBCU student and Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (LAICU) representation to the Council's membership. It also includes a provision requiring an annual report to the Legislature of the group's actions, recommendations and findings.

## THE CHALLENGE

The additions of a student member and a representative of the private institutions' organization are important to strengthening the HBCU Advisory Council as we work to improve student outcomes and acknowledge the critical contributions of Louisiana's private HBCUs. In addition, annual reporting is designed to ensure broader awareness of the Council's progress in meeting its stated goals.

## THE OPPORTUNITY

- As Louisiana strives to erase damaging equity gaps that deprive so many citizens of the full development of their talent potential, HBCUs serve the vital role as equalizers of access to postsecondary education.
- With renewed federal focus on the value HBCUs, Louisiana, home to 8 HBCUs and the nation's only HBCU System (Southern University System), is uniquely positioned to serve as an exemplar of successful HBCU policy and practice at Dillard University, Grambling State University, Southern University and A&M College, Southern Ag Research and Extension Center, Southern Law Center, Southern University New Orleans, Southern University Shreveport and Xavier University of Louisiana.

Louisiana is  
home to  
8 HBCUs  
with  
enrollments  
totalling  
22,854  
students in  
2019-2020



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