

New Legislation from 2023 Session

SB 17 Relates to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion initiatives at public institutions of higher education

Broadly, this new law states that institutions:

- Cannot establish or maintain a DEI office

SB 17 continued

- Cannot use DEI statements in hiring or give preferences to protected classes in hiring or as a participant in any function at the institution
- Cannot mandate DEI training

There are exclusions, which include

- Academic course instruction

SB 17 continued

- Scholarly research/creative works
- Activity of registered student organization
- Guest speakers/ performers on short term engagements
- Policy, practice, program or activity to enhance student academic achievement or postgraduate outcomes that are not exclusive to any particular group
- Data Collection

SB 18 Relates to Tenure

Broadly, this law requires the Board of Regents to adopt policies which:

- Address the granting of tenure
- Provide for dismissal of tenured faculty, including financial exigency
- Provide for regular comprehensive performance evaluations of faculty