Draft Final Report Feedback

Instructions

- 1. Complete the following two sections accordingly:
 - a. The <u>General Comments</u> section addresses issues that may apply to more than one section of the report or to issues not currently covered in the report.
 - b. The <u>Specific Comments</u> section should include comments directed at a particular section or wording of the report. These might be suggested line edits or new language, for example.
- 2. In the specific comments section, indicate any page numbers and/or sections related to the comment.
- 3. In both sections, describe in a few words the topic your comment addresses in the "Topic of Comment" field.
- 4. Record your comment/feedback in the "Comment" field.
- 5. If additional comment space is needed, right click in any row and select "insert" > "insert rows" to add an additional row(s). Additional rows can be added at the bottom of the table or in between rows.
- Save your document and email to Katie Lynne at katie lynne morton@hcmstrategists.com. All final comments are due by 5pm CT on February 20, 2024.

Topic of Comment	Comment
Appreciation	I'm grateful for the passion and commitment of commission members for the important work. The commission's work required significant dedications of time and energy over a long period of time, including that of the working group members as well. Thank you one and all.
Appropriateness of the K-12 model	The central work of the commission has been based on the platform/concept of formula distributions to K-12 and has grafted onto that platform a wide variety of variables to try to accommodate the many profound differences between the K-12 and higher education environments. The majority of the commission's time has been spent on thinking about how to tweak, measure, and include (or not include) those variables. It is not a built-from-the-ground-up model for higher education.

General Comments

Complexity	The formula is extraordinarily complex. I worry about explaining it to stakeholders and taxpayers. I worry also about how institutional leaders will be able to use the formula for planning purposes given the number of variables and how they impact projected outcomes in the model's computations.
Model components that can be perceived as arbitrary	There are multiple examples of numerical values in the model that do not appear to be based on any hard data. For example, a sliding scale for a premium from 45% to 0% based on every N of additional students. This was said to be to reflect economies of scale, but there's no data showing that an institution at these various sizes (2000, 5000, 10000, etc.) have an n% difference in operational economies of scale.
Not fully accounting for differences in institutional mission	The commission spent much time on the issues of graduate education, health and medical education, and other differences across the institutions. The model does not fully account for these institutional differences. There are aspects of university operations such as public engagement, extension, cultural hubs for local communities, and more that are not accounted for but for which universities have to budget.
High cost graduate training	The model makes an effort to account for medical training but there are other areas of high-cost education that are missing. Veterinary Medicine is absent despite being extremely high cost. Pharmacy, Nursing, and other areas are not considered. High cost areas (i.e., the expense to run instruction, labs, staff, etc.) such as business schools, engineering schools, and others are not accounted for. A related concern is that the model presumes grad students pay tuition. Many do not.
Institutional size and diversity and equity goals	The formula weights the percentage of URM within each institution but does not consider the degree to which institutions serve the state's percentage of URM students. The state's larger institutions play a crucial role in the state's equity interests by enrolling and graduating a significant proportion of the state's enrolled URM students. The model does not factor in this contribution.

Specific Comments

Page Number, Paragraph, Section, etc.	Topic of Comment	Comment