



1           WHEREAS, the constitution provides that the legislature may not amend the formula  
2 that is adopted by the board and submitted to the legislature for its consideration but may  
3 only return an unsatisfactory formula to the board along with recommendations to the board  
4 for an amended formula; and

5           WHEREAS, for the purpose of providing BESE with advisory recommendations for  
6 the MFP formula for 2014-2015 and beyond, BESE formed a MFP task force that met from  
7 September of 2013 through January of 2014 and adopted several recommendations relative  
8 to the formula; and

9           WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 220 of the 2014 Regular Session of the  
10 Legislature urged and requested BESE to reconvene this task force, and at its August 2014  
11 meeting, BESE authorized the reconvening of the task force to develop recommendations  
12 for the 2015-2016 MFP formula; and

13           WHEREAS, the reconvened task force held its final meeting on December 16, 2014,  
14 and adopted the following recommendations: a 2.75 percent rate increase in 2015-2016 base  
15 per pupil funding; additional funding for special education; increased funding for dual  
16 enrollment and other course choices; an in-depth study of the formula, including a  
17 determination of actual costs of providing education and the formula's efficacy in meeting  
18 constitutional mandates; and consultation with administrative and legislative leadership  
19 relative to how the formula's student count is accounted for in the budget; and

20           WHEREAS, House Concurrent Resolution No. 18 of the 2015 Regular Session of  
21 the Legislature, which provided for legislative approval of the 2015-2016 MFP formula, was  
22 deferred by the Senate Committee on Education; and

23           WHEREAS, during the 2015 Regular Session, the legislature appropriated  
24 approximately \$3.7 billion for the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) that funds public  
25 K-12 education; and because the legislature did not approve a new MFP resolution, Senate  
26 Concurrent Resolution No. 55 of the 2014 Regular Session remains in effect; and

27           WHEREAS, the appropriation provided additional funding outside the formula,  
28 including \$36.2 million, which is equivalent to a 1.375% increase in the base per pupil cost,  
29 to sustain certificated teacher pay raises and \$8 million to expand educational initiatives  
30 created in 2014; and

1           WHEREAS, in December 2015, the MFP Task Force approved a set of policy  
2 recommendations for the Board of Elementary and Second Education (BESE) to consider  
3 when developing the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 MFP resolution; and

4           WHEREAS, these recommendations include incorporating the additional funds  
5 appropriated into the new formula, in accordance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 231  
6 of the 2015 Regular Session; and

7           WHEREAS, providing additional funding for the MFP will be particularly  
8 challenging in the 2016 Regular Session as legislators work to pass a budget that addresses  
9 a shortfall projected for the upcoming fiscal year; and

10          WHEREAS, many education stakeholders feel that various issues relative to the MFP  
11 formula warrant further study so that the needs of students and the school systems that  
12 educate them are sufficiently met; and

13          WHEREAS, in order to fulfill the state's constitutional duty of affording every  
14 student an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential, it is imperative that there be  
15 continued study of the Minimum Foundation Program formula so that determinations can  
16 be made as to how the state can best provide experiences and opportunities to students that  
17 help them succeed in all aspects of life.

18          THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and  
20 Secondary Education to reconvene a Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) task force to  
21 determine the actual cost of providing public education in Louisiana and identify all  
22 potential funding mechanisms to enable school systems to meet this cost and to submit a  
23 written report of findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education not  
24 later than February 1, 2017.

25          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the task force include but not  
26 be limited to individuals representing BESE, the state Department of Education, the  
27 Louisiana School Boards Association, the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents,  
28 the Louisiana Association of School Business Officers, Council for a Better Louisiana, the  
29 Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, the Louisiana Association of Public Charter

1 Schools, the Louisiana Association of Educators, the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, and  
2 the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
4 president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state  
5 superintendent of education.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HR 243 Original

2016 Regular Session

Price

Requests that the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education reconvene a Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) task force to determine the actual cost of providing public education in La. and identify all potential funding mechanisms to enable school systems to meet this cost and submit a written report of findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education by Feb. 1, 2017.