

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROMERO, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, CORMIER,
EDMONSTON, FARNUM, FREIBERG, MIKE JOHNSON, MCFARLAND,
SCHEXNAYDER, AND THOMPSON

SCHOOLS/FINANCE-MFP: Requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum Foundation Program formula in order to ensure adequate funding for school systems affected by Hurricane Laura or Hurricane Delta

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to meet to
3 discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum Foundation Program formula to ensure
4 adequate funding for school systems affected by the displacement of students due to
5 Hurricane Laura or Hurricane Delta, to take into account the financial needs of
6 systems that have lost students and systems that have gained students due to the
7 hurricanes, and, if adjustments are necessary, to adopt a revised formula and submit
8 it to the legislature while the legislature is convened for the 2020 Second
9 Extraordinary Session and has the opportunity to consider the revised formula for
10 approval.

11 WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 13(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana requires the
12 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to develop and adopt annually
13 a formula which shall be used to determine the cost of a minimum foundation program
14 (MFP) of education in all public elementary and secondary schools as well as to allocate
15 equitably the funds to parish and city school systems; and

16 WHEREAS, the constitution requires the legislature to fully fund the current cost to
17 the state of the MFP as determined by applying the legislatively approved formula; and

1 WHEREAS, Hurricane Laura, which made landfall in August of 2020, and Hurricane
2 Delta, which made landfall in October of 2020, drastically disrupted elementary and
3 secondary education services in multiple parishes; and

4 WHEREAS, unprecedented and widespread damage to homes and school facilities
5 has resulted in the closure of schools and the displacement of thousands of families; and

6 WHEREAS, it is critical that adequate funding be provided both to parishes
7 experiencing decreased enrollment due to the displacement of students and those whose
8 enrollment has increased due to the intake of displaced students.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
10 urge and request the BESE to meet to discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum
11 Foundation Program formula in order to ensure adequate funding for school systems affected
12 by the displacement of students resulting from Hurricane Laura or Hurricane Delta.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature does hereby urge and request
14 BESE to take into account the financial needs of systems that have lost students and systems
15 that have gained students due to the hurricanes.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature does hereby urge and request
17 BESE, if adjustments are necessary, to adopt a revised formula and submit it to the
18 legislature while the legislature is convened for the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session and
19 has the opportunity to consider the revised formula for approval.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
21 to the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and to the state
22 superintendent of education.

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)]

HCR 17 Reengrossed 2020 Second Extraordinary Session Romero

Requests the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to do the following:

- (1) Meet to discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum Foundation Program formula in order to ensure adequate funding for school systems affected by the displacement of students resulting from Hurricane Laura or Hurricane Delta.

- (2) Take into account the financial needs of systems that have lost students and systems that have gained students due to the hurricanes.
- (3) If adjustments are necessary, adopt a revised formula and submit it to the legislature while the legislature is convened for the 2020 2nd E.S. and has the opportunity to consider the revised formula for approval.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Request the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to consider the impacts of Hurricane Delta, in addition to Hurricane Laura.