

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 40

BY SENATOR MILLIGAN AND REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, EMERSON, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, HARRIS, JEFFERSON, MCFARLAND, CHARLES OWEN, SCHAMERHORN, ST. BLANC AND TARVER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request each city, parish, and other local school board to create a Teachers' Advisory Council.

WHEREAS, the legislature, BESE, the state Department of Education, and local governing authorities routinely pass laws, rules, and policies that impact teachers, classroom activities, and student learning; and

WHEREAS, it is most often teachers who see the direct consequences, intended and unintended, of those actions; and

WHEREAS, teachers often feel powerless to bring attention to the unintended consequences and to impact meaningful change that could enhance the learning environment of students; and

WHEREAS, the feelings of powerlessness are often cited by teachers as the reason for competent teachers leaving the classroom; and

WHEREAS, many teachers point to the inability to impact classroom policies as having a greater negative influence on them compared to their pay; and

WHEREAS, providing teachers a method to provide feedback could not only improve the working environment for educators but also increase learning outcomes for students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request each city, parish, and local school board to create the Teachers' Advisory Council in order to allow teacher input into the decisions that impact student learning.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council be comprised of teachers chosen to provide diverse views and from among a pool of teachers who have applied to serve on the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the terms of the members shall be staggered in a manner to provide for both new insight as well as continuity in the membership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first meeting of the Council shall be called by the leader of the city, parish, or other local school board by August 1, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council shall meet with the leader of the city, parish, or other local board on a quarterly basis in order to discuss issues, laws, rules, and policies impacting teachers and their students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to provide a feedback loop, after each meeting of the Council, the leader of the city, parish, or other local school board shall provide a report to their local school board on the discussions of the Teachers' Advisory Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive director of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents and the executive director of the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES