2022 Regular Session

**ACT No. 506** 

SENATE BILL NO. 282

BY SENATOR JACKSON

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact Part III of Chapter 3 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of
3	1950, comprised of R.S. 46:351 through 356, relative to public assistance programs;
4	to establish a workforce training initiative to serve public assistance recipients; to
5	provide for interagency collaboration in administering the program; to provide for
6	an advisory board; to provide for an initial service area followed by a statewide
7	extension of the program; to provide for duties of the executive director of the
8	Louisiana Workforce Commission, the secretary of the Department of Children and
9	Family Services, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the state
10	superintendent of education, and the president of the Louisiana Community and
11	Technical College System with respect to the program; to provide for administrative
12	rulemaking; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.
13	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
14	Section 1. Part III of Chapter 3 of Title 46 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950,
15	comprised of R.S. 46:351 through 356, is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
16	PART III. WORKFORCE TRAINING INITIATIVE
17	§351. Declaration
18	$\underline{A}$ . It is the policy of this state to encourage self-sufficiency so that
19	Louisianians residents of Louisiana may reduce dependence on public benefits to
20	meet basic needs and become economically self-reliant, and to provide key supports
21	to those persons residents to help them in achieving their workforce participation
22	goals.
23	B. In order to promote inclusive leadership, ensure equal access to

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1	professional growth opportunities, and achieve the goals and objectives of the
2	initiative established by Act 271 of the 2018 Regular Session, it is imperative to
3	encourage participation by the public in the design of the program and to
4	implement the program in collaboration with an advisory board comprising a
5	diverse membership.
6	§352. Definitions
7	As used in this Part, the following terms have the meaning ascribed to them
8	in this Section definitions apply:
9	(1) "Participant" means a person who participates in the pilot initiative
10	provided for in this Part.
11	(2) "Pilot initiative" means the workforce training and education pilot
12	initiative provided for in this Part.
13	(3)(1) "Public assistance" means any of the following:
14	(a) Cash benefits of the Family Independence Temporary Assistance Program
15	administered by the Department of Children and Family Services.
16	(b) Cash benefits of the Kinship Care Subsidy Program administered by the
17	Department of Children and Family Services.
18	(c)(b) Nutrition assistance benefits of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance
19	Program administered by the Department of Children and Family Services.
20	(d)(c) Medical assistance pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act
21	through the program commonly known as Medicaid administered by the Louisiana
22	Department of Health.
23	(c)(d) Child care assistance through the Child Care Assistance Program
24	administered by the Louisiana Department of Education.
25	(4)(2) "State partners" shall mean means the following state entities,
26	collectively:
27	(a) The Louisiana Workforce Commission.
28	(b) The Department of Children and Family Services.
29	(c) The Louisiana Department of Health.
30	(d) The Louisiana Department of Education.

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1	(e) The Louisiana Community and Technical College System.
2	§353. Workforce training and education pilot initiative; creation; advisory board;
3	functions
4	A.(1) Subject to any applicable requirements and limitations of federal law
5	and regulation, the secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the secretary
6	of the Department of Children and Family Services, the secretary of the Louisiana
7	Department of Health, the state superintendent of education, and the president of the
8	Louisiana Community and Technical College System shall collaborate to design and
9	implement there is hereby established a workforce training and education pilot
10	initiative for public assistance recipients for the purpose of improving employment
11	opportunities and promoting workforce advancement. The secretary of the Louisiana
12	Workforce Commission shall lead coordination of the pilot initiative. The heads of
13	the state partners <b>in collaboration with an advisory board</b> shall administer the <del>pilot</del>
14	initiative in accordance with the provisions of this Part. The advisory board shall
15	consist of the following members:
16	(a) The secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission or his
17	designee.
18	(b) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services or
19	his designee.
20	(c) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee.
21	(d) The state superintendent of education or his designee.
22	(e) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College
23	<u>System or his designee.</u>
24	(f) A representative of Together Louisiana.
25	(g) The president of the National Association for the Advancement of
26	Colored People (NAACP), Louisiana State Conference, or his designee.
27	(h) The president of the Louisiana AFL-CIO or his designee.
28	(i) The president of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry
29	or his designee.

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1	(k) Two individuals appointed by the state senator for Senate District 34.
2	(1) The state representatives for House Districts 16, 17, 21, 26, and 40.
2	(m) The state network director for Unite Louisiana or his designee.
4	(n)The executive director of 232-Help/Louisiana 211 or his designee.
5	(2)(a) The state senator for Senate District 34 shall serve as the chair of
6	<u>the advisory board. Upon approval of the chair, the membership of the advisory</u>
7	board may be increased to include a representative of any interested party.
8	(b) The members of the advisory board shall serve without
9	compensation, except per diem or expense reimbursement to which they may
10	be individually entitled as a member of their respective constituent
11	organization.
12	(c) The state partners shall provide staff support as needed by the
13	advisory board.
14	(d) The advisory board shall meet upon the call of the chair and may
15	meet as frequently as necessary for the timely performance of its duties. The
16	advisory board shall meet in any parish served by the initiative or in East Baton
16 17	advisory board shall meet in any parish served by the initiative or in East Baton Rouge Parish.
17	Rouge Parish.
17 18	Rouge Parish. (2)(3)(a) The state partners <u>in collaboration with the advisory board</u> shall
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17 18 19 20	Rouge Parish. (2)(3)(a) The state partners <u>in collaboration with the advisory board</u> shall design the <del>pilot</del> initiative's operations and system of services <del>in such a manner as</del> to facilitate replication <u>allow implementation</u> of the program in all <del>regions</del> <u>parishes</u>
17 18 19 20 21	Rouge Parish.(2)(3)(a) The state partners in collaboration with the advisory board shalldesign the pilot initiative's operations and system of services in such a manner as tofacilitate replication allow implementation of the program in all regions parishesof the state upon review of the program with an evaluation demonstrating
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<ol> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> <li>22</li> <li>23</li> <li>24</li> <li>25</li> <li>26</li> <li>27</li> </ol>	Rouge Parish.         (2)(3)(a) The state partners in collaboration with the advisory board shall design the pilot initiative's operations and system of services in such a manner as to facilitate replication allow implementation of the program in all regions parishes of the state upon review of the program with an evaluation demonstrating successful performance.         (b) Prior to the design and implementation of the initiative, the advisory board shall conduct meetings for the purpose of receiving public input regarding the program. The first meeting shall be called by the chair no later than August 31, 2022.         (c) The advisory board may work with the local human service districts

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1	<b><u>initially</u></b> operate and serve participants in the following regions <b>parishes</b> :
2	(a) The service area of Local Workforce Development Area No. 40.
3	<u>Concordia.</u>
4	(b) The service area of the Franklin Parish Consortium. East Carroll.
5	(c) The service area of the Ouachita Parish Workforce Investment Board.
6	Madison.
7	(d) Morehouse.
8	<u>(e) Ouachita.</u>
9	(f) Richland.
10	(g) St. Landry.
11	<u>(h) Tensas.</u>
12	(2) If agreed to by the head of each state partner, the partners may expand the
13	The geographic service area of the pilot initiative may be expanded beyond the
14	regions parishes specified in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection after an evaluation
15	utilizing performance outcome driven data and information regarding
16	participant experience. The state partners and advisory board may work with
16 17	<u>participant experience</u> . <u>The state partners and advisory board may work with</u> <u>the local human service districts and authorities for assistance with expansion</u>
17	the local human service districts and authorities for assistance with expansion
17 18	the local human service districts and authorities for assistance with expansion of the initiative.
17 18 19	the local human service districts and authorities for assistance with expansion of the initiative. C. Participation in the <del>pilot</del> initiative by public assistance recipients shall be
17 18 19 20	the local human service districts and authorities for assistance with expansion of the initiative. C. Participation in the <del>pilot</del> initiative by public assistance recipients shall be strictly voluntary.
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<ol> <li>17</li> <li>18</li> <li>19</li> <li>20</li> <li>21</li> <li>22</li> <li>23</li> </ol>	the local human service districts and authorities for assistance with expansion of the initiative. C. Participation in the pilot initiative by public assistance recipients shall be strictly voluntary. D. Work supports and workforce education services provided by the pilot initiative may include, without limitation, any of the following: (1) Job referral services.
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1	(9) Basic education.
2	(10) Educational certificates.
3	(11) Supportive services.
4	§354. Administration; interagency agreements; participant forms; program
5	promotion
6	A. The state partners shall enter into any memoranda of understanding,
7	cooperative endeavors, or other types of agreements between and among the partners
8	<del>as may be</del> and with the local human service districts and authorities necessary
9	to administer the <del>pilot</del> initiative.
10	B.(1) The state partners shall promulgate and issue such any forms as are
11	necessary to inform prospective participants of the pilot initiative's purpose and
12	functions, and use of the 2-1-1 referral system to obtain participants' consent to
13	participate in the <del>pilot</del> initiative.
14	(2) Unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, each state partner shall
15	share with the other state partners, on a schedule to be mutually determined by the
16	state partners, the names and contact information of persons who have provided
17	consent to participate in the pilot initiative.
18	C. The state partners <b>and the advisory board</b> shall collaborate to promote
19	the <del>pilot</del> initiative among <del>their respective</del> <u>the</u> clients <u>of the state partners</u> , business
20	groups and organizations, community-based groups and organizations, faith-based
21	groups and organizations, and the public generally. The state partners and
22	advisory board may work with the local human service districts and authorities
23	to promote the initiative throughout the area of service.
24	§355. Reporting
25	No later than twelve months after commencement of the pilot initiative, and
26	at least annually thereafter, the state partners, jointly, shall submit a written report
27	providing a summary and evaluation of outcomes of the pilot initiative to $\underline{\mathbf{the}}$
28	advisory board, the House and Senate committees on labor and industrial relations,
29	and to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare.
30	§356. Rulemaking

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## **ENROLLED**

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#### **ENROLLED**

1	The secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the secretary of the
2	Department of Children and Family Services, the secretary of the Louisiana
3	Department of Health, the state superintendent of education, and the president of the
4	Louisiana Community and Technical College System shall promulgate all <del>such</del> rules
5	in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act as are necessary to implement
6	the provisions of this Part.
7	Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
8	signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
9	by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
10	vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
11	effective on the day following such approval.

# PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

# SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: