

1 WHEREAS, in addition to receiving transferrable credentials, skills, and knowledge,
2 apprentices also receive payment for participating in the program and their payment
3 increases as their training progresses; and

4 WHEREAS, not only is the program beneficial to apprentices, it is also beneficial
5 to participating employers as well; and

6 WHEREAS, the program, which is highly customizable and highly flexible in order
7 to match an employer's specific needs and job requirements, directly pipelines to
8 participating employers a selection of skilled, certified, and trained workers that they can
9 include to their workforce; and

10 WHEREAS, not only is this program beneficial to workers and employers, it is also
11 beneficial for this state; and

12 WHEREAS, this program gives this state a more competitive edge, creates a highly
13 skilled and trained workforce, provides employers with ready to work and willing to work
14 employees, attracts companies who would like to participate in such programs, and increases
15 wages for workers which in turn encourages economic stimulation; and

16 WHEREAS, House Bill No. 487 of the 2022 Regular Session, which would have
17 required employers, who participate in certain economic development programs and receive
18 fiscal benefits for the construction of new facilities or the expansion of existing facilities, to
19 designate no less than two percent of man-hours in any apprenticeable occupation to
20 registered apprentices, was not reported from the House Committee on Labor and Industrial
21 Relations; and

22 WHEREAS, due to the coronavirus pandemic causing an unexpected shortened and
23 limited legislative regular session, House Bill Nos. 199 and 205 of the 2020 Regular Session,
24 which would have required employers, who are awarded a contract by this state to construct
25 a capital project, to designate no less than two percent of man-hours in any apprenticeable
26 occupation to registered apprentices, did not have hearings in the House Committee on
27 Labor and Industrial Relations; and

28 WHEREAS, it would be a great disservice to the workers and employers of this state
29 if this legislature does not consider and include additional ways to further promote and

1 expand the Registered Apprenticeship program by including more job opportunities for
2 registered apprentices and employers to participate in.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
4 establish a task force to study and make recommendations to determine whether designating
5 a certain percentage of man-hours in any apprenticeable occupation to registered apprentices
6 for certain construction and capital projects would be beneficial for this state.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the task force shall be as
8 follows:

9 (1) The secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission or his designee.

10 (2) One representative from the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.

11 (3) One representative from the Louisiana AFL-CIO.

12 (4) One representative from the Associated Builders and Contractors of
13 Louisiana.

14 (5) One representative from the Louisiana Associated General Contractors.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Workforce Commission shall
16 provide staff support as needed by the task force.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall convene its first meeting by
18 September 1, 2023, and shall meet as frequently as it deems necessary for the timely
19 performance of its duties.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at the first meeting, the members of the task
21 force shall elect a chairperson, who shall preside over the task force.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force shall serve without
23 compensation.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of
25 its findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana not later than February 1,
26 2024.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall do all of the following:

28 (1) Assess the current number of registered apprentices within this state.

29 (2) Assess the current number of businesses and organizations that participate in
30 the Registered Apprenticeship program within this state.

1 (3) Assess the benefits and drawbacks, if any, to specific employers who would
2 be required to designate a certain percentage of man-hours in any apprenticeable occupation
3 to registered apprentices for certain construction and capital projects.

4 (4) Recommend legislation and policy changes for the 2024 Regular Session of
5 the Legislature.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
7 secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the president of the Louisiana
8 Association of Business and Industry, the president of the Louisiana AFL-CIO, the
9 chairperson of the Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana, and the chief executive
10 officer of the Louisiana Associated General Contractors.

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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2023 Regular Session

LaCombe

Creates a task force to study and make recommendations to determine whether designating a certain percentage of man-hours in any apprenticeable occupation to registered apprentices for certain construction and capital projects would be beneficial for this state.