

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVES MELERINE, MCMAHEN, AND MYERS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the state Department of Education to study the potential effects of alternative school calendar options on student academic achievement and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than March 1, 2025.

WHEREAS, R.S. 17:154.1(C) requires each public school governing authority to determine the school-year calendar for the schools under its jurisdiction and provides that neither the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) nor the state Department of Education (DOE) shall determine or require approval of these calendars; and

WHEREAS, current law sets minimum instructional minutes in a school day and minimum days in a school year but allows some flexibility in how the time and days are structured; and

WHEREAS, with this flexibility, school boards have various calendar options available, including the balanced calendar model; and

WHEREAS, also known as year-round education, the balanced calendar model is a concept that reorganizes minimum instructional time requirements across the academic year to provide learning that is more continuous by reducing the time students spend on summer vacation; and

WHEREAS, DOE has been conducting ongoing research on alternative school calendar options, particularly the balanced calendar model, for the past several years; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the department bring its research up to date, inform legislators of its findings and recommendations, and continue to assist public school governing authorities in determining schedules that best meet the academic needs of their students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request that the state Department of Education study the potential effects of alternative school calendar options on student academic achievement and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than March 1, 2025.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE