

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 168

BY REPRESENTATIVE ST. BLANC

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Requests that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education consider the adoption of a policy allowing online public schools to administer state assessments remotely and in a virtual setting

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to consider the
3 adoption of a policy allowing online public schools to administer state assessments
4 remotely and in a virtual setting.

5 WHEREAS, thousands of public school students are enrolled in full-time online
6 public schools across the state, and federal law and state law require the administration of
7 state assessments to all public school students, including those enrolled in online schools;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, current policy of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
10 Education requires that virtual charter schools conduct all state assessments at secure,
11 proctored locations within reasonable distance of students' homes, as approved by the charter
12 authorizer, which means that schools set up multiple in-person testing locations across the
13 state; and

14 WHEREAS, the parents of online public school students face hardships in terms of
15 taking time off from work in order to travel to testing locations, and it is especially
16 challenging for those in rural and remote areas; and

17 WHEREAS, at-risk students, low-income students, and students with disabilities
18 attending online public schools face challenges with in-person state testing mandates,
19 including out-of-pocket travel costs, accessibility challenges for students with disabilities,
20 and other accommodations for students with special needs; and

1 WHEREAS, online public school teachers are diverted away from teaching to serve
2 as proctors at testing facilities across the state, and instruction is interrupted over multiple
3 days and weeks, which adversely impacts student learning; and

4 WHEREAS, standardized assessments can be safely and successfully administered
5 to students remotely using modern software and technology that is secure, safe, and effective
6 and ensures test integrity; and

7 WHEREAS, research indicates that allowing for remote testing for students who
8 learn from home results in greater participation, which provides more reliable and accurate
9 performance data; and

10 WHEREAS, remote state testing is a proven solution to addressing the inequities and
11 unnecessary burdens that online public school students and teachers face relative to the
12 administration of state assessments.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
14 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that the State Board of Elementary
15 and Secondary Education consider the adoption of a policy that allows online public schools
16 to administer state assessments required pursuant to R.S. 17:24.4 remotely and in a virtual
17 setting.

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)]

HR 168 Engrossed

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Requests that the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education consider adopting policy that allows online public schools to administer state assessments remotely and in a virtual setting.