

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 64

BY SENATOR NEVERS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Establishes and provides for a Louisiana Agriculture Education Study Group.

1    A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2            To establish and provide with respect to the establishment of a study group to investigate the  
3                                  current state of agricultural education in elementary and secondary schools and make  
4                                  recommendations to the legislature and the State Board of Elementary and  
5                                  Secondary Education with respect to possible improvements in agricultural education  
6                                  and the possible implementation of a pilot program for an agricultural immersion  
7                                  curriculum.

8            WHEREAS, agribusiness in Louisiana generates over thirty billion dollars annually  
9                                  and is considered a "Key Industry" by the Louisiana Department of Economic Development;  
10                                  and

11                  WHEREAS, last year, according to the Louisiana State University Agricultural  
12                                  Center, Louisiana's farmers and ranchers generated over eleven billion dollars in income,  
13                                  which is a Louisiana record; and

14                  WHEREAS, agricultural and agribusiness education is essential for the continued  
15                                  development of this important business sector of Louisiana's economy; and

16                  WHEREAS, late in the last century, in an effort to update agricultural and  
17                                  agribusiness education in the nation's schools, the National Council for Agricultural  
18                                  Education issued a report entitled "Reinventing Agricultural Education for the Year 2020";

1 and

2 WHEREAS, partly in response to this report, in 2003 Louisiana adopted the  
3 Agriculture Education Content Standards Curriculum Framework, cited as Louisiana  
4 Administrative Code, Title 28, Part LXV, Bulletin 106; and

5 WHEREAS, other states have adopted agriculture immersion programs, including  
6 a school farm, so that students may develop character, teamwork building, responsibility,  
7 and learn interactively about agriculture and agribusiness; and

8 WHEREAS, ten years have passed since Louisiana adopted its current curriculum  
9 framework.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby  
11 establishes the Louisiana Agriculture Education Study Group to investigate the current state  
12 of agricultural education in elementary and secondary schools and to provide  
13 recommendations to the legislature and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
14 Education for improvements in agricultural education and the possible implementation of  
15 a pilot program for an agricultural immersion curriculum.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group created herein shall consist of  
17 the following members:

- 18 1. The chair of the Senate Committee on Education or his designee.
- 19 2. The chair of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and  
20 Rural Development or his designee.
- 21 3. The chair of the House Committee on Education or his designee.
- 22 4. The chair of the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and  
23 Rural Development or his designee.
- 24 5. The superintendent of the Department of Education or his designee.
- 25 6. The commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry or his designee.
- 26 7. The chancellor of the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center or his  
27 designee.
- 28 8. The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Center or his designee.
- 29 9. A representative of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Center appointed by the  
30 commissioner of agriculture and forestry.

- 1           10. The president of the Louisiana Farm Bureau or her designee.
- 2           11. The president of the Louisiana Agriscience Teachers Association or his designee.
- 3           12. The president of the Louisiana chapter of the Future Farmers of America or his
- 4 designee.
- 5           13. A member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.
- 6           14. A member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House
- 7 of Representatives.
- 8           15. An at large member appointed by the president of the Senate.
- 9           16. An at large member appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

10           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group at its organizational meeting  
11 shall elect a chair and such other officers as it determines necessary.

12           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any official action of the study group shall  
13 require the affirmative approval of the majority of the quorum present and voting, a majority  
14 of the appointed members constituting a quorum.

15           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this study committee shall serve  
16 without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be  
17 individually entitled as members of the constituent organizations.

18           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall make a written report of  
19 its findings to the Louisiana Legislature by February 1, 2014.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

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DIGEST

Nevers

SCR No. 64

Establishes the Louisiana Agriculture Education Study Group to investigate the current state of agricultural education in elementary and secondary schools and to provide recommendations to the legislature and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for improvements in agricultural education and the possible implementation of a pilot program for an agricultural immersion curriculum.

The study group shall consist of the following members:

- (1) The chair of the Senate Education Committee or his designee.
- (2) The chair of the Senate Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development Committee or his designee.
- (3) The chair of the House Education Committee or his designee.

- (4) The chair of the House Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development Committee or his designee.
- (5) The superintendent of the Department of Education or his designee.
- (6) The commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Forestry or his designee.
- (7) The chancellor of the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center or his designee.
- (8) The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Center or his designee.
- (9) A representative of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Center appointed by the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.
- (10) The president of the Louisiana Farm Bureau or her designee.
- (11) The president of the Louisiana Agriscience Teachers Association or his designee.
- (12) The president of the Louisiana chapter of the Future Farmers of America or his designee.
- (13) A member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (14) A member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House.
- (15) An at large member appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (16) An at large member appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

The study group shall make a written report of its findings to the Louisiana Legislature by February 1, 2014.