

1 practicing physicians and over seventy-five percent of actively practicing dentists have
2 trained at a Louisiana State University institution; and

3 WHEREAS, biomedical and health-related research is considered to be a mission
4 critical component of an institution for medical education and research, and as such is a
5 mandatory requirement for accreditation by the accrediting bodies governing health-related
6 educational institutions; and

7 WHEREAS, biomedical and health research is critical to addressing the financial and
8 social burden of chronic disease in Louisiana's citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, through multiple
10 disciplines, contributes research vital to the health, well-being, and prosperity of all
11 Louisianians; and

12 WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 5(D) of the Constitution of Louisiana directs the
13 Board of Regents to prepare and maintain a master plan for the state's public institutions of
14 postsecondary education, which includes a formula for the equitable distribution of funding
15 among those institutions; and

16 WHEREAS, no funding formula exists that accounts for the educational and research
17 mission of the state's institutions for medical education and research; and

18 WHEREAS, the exclusion of the institutions for medical education and research from
19 the formula used to fund the state's two-year and four-year degree-granting institutions
20 makes it difficult to equitably balance the needs for financial support of all of the state's
21 institutions; and

22 WHEREAS, the formula used for the funding of institutions which grant four-year
23 and two-year degrees includes a large component that is based upon costs, enrollment, and
24 performance measure statistics for each institution; and

25 WHEREAS, the cost of educating and training medical professionals is considerably
26 higher than that for the education and training of professionals in other fields, with the cost
27 of training physicians and dentists being particularly high, ranging from seventy-two
28 thousand dollars to eighty thousand dollars per student, per year; and

29 WHEREAS, the tuition bases for the Louisiana State University Health Sciences
30 Centers, Louisiana State University Pennington Biomedical Research Center, and the

1 Louisiana State University Agricultural Center are all relatively small or nonexistent as
2 compared to the size of their overall operations, which means that fluctuations in funding
3 through the state general fund and other sources have dramatic effects on the financial
4 viability of those institutions; and

5 WHEREAS, despite Louisiana's low rankings when compared to other states,
6 enrollment at the LSU Health Sciences Centers since 2008 has increased an average of
7 seventeen percent, without any increases in state funding to provide for the increases in
8 student population; and

9 WHEREAS, a comprehensive formula for the funding of institutions of medical
10 education and research may allow for better decisions with respect to the finance of all of
11 the state's public institutions of postsecondary education when the legislature considers the
12 Board of Regent's budget recommendations.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
14 create the Medical Education & Research Finance Work Group, hereinafter referred to as
15 "work group", to provide the legislature and the Board of Regents with findings and
16 recommendations for a formula based financing model for the funding of Louisiana's public
17 institutions for graduate and professional medical education and biomedical and health-
18 related research.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the work group shall be composed of the
20 following members:

21 (1) A representative of the Board of Regents.

22 (2) The president of Louisiana State University, or his designee.

23 (3) A representative of the Louisiana State Medical Society.

24 (4) Four persons designated by the president of Louisiana State University who are
25 employed by the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, including at least one
26 employee of the Louisiana State University Pennington Biomedical Center, and at least one
27 employee of Louisiana State University Agricultural Center.

28 (5) The commissioner of administration, or his designee.

29 (6) The speaker of the House, or his designee.

30 (7) The president of the Senate, or his designee.

1 (8) The chair of the Louisiana Health Works Commission, or his designee.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the work group shall collect and analyze data
3 related to the cost and delivery of medical education and biomedical and health-related
4 research in Louisiana and other states.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the work group shall prepare findings and
6 recommendations on a formula-based financing model, or components of such a model, to
7 be used to provide funding for Louisiana's public institutions for graduate and professional
8 medical education and biomedical and health-related research.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the work group shall submit the findings and
10 recommendations to the members of the House Committee on Education, the Senate
11 Committee on Education, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Senate
12 Committee on Finance no later than January 31, 2015.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall be responsible for
14 designating staff to assist the work group in performing its duties.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
16 Board of Regents which shall be responsible for transmitting a copy to each of the offices,
17 institutions, or organizations from which the members of the Medical Education and
18 Research Finance Work Group are being selected or designated.

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)]

Leger

HCR No. 134

Creates the Medical Education & Research Finance Work Group, hereinafter "work group", to provide the legislature and the Board of Regents with findings and recommendations for a formula-based financing model for the funding of Louisiana's public institutions for graduate and professional medical education and biomedical and health-related research. Provides for membership of the work group as follows:

- (1) A representative of the Board of Regents.
- (2) The president of La. State University, or his designee.
- (3) A representative of the La. State Medical Society.

- (4) Four persons designated by the president of La. State University who are employed by the La. State University Health Sciences Center, including at least one employee of the La. State University Pennington Biomedical Center, and at least one employee of La. State University Agricultural Center.
- (5) The commissioner of administration, or his designee.
- (6) The speaker of the House, or his designee.
- (7) The president of the Senate, or his designee.
- (8) The chair of the La. Health Works Commission, or his designee.

Requires the Board of Regents to be responsible for designating staff to assist the work group in performing its duties.

Requires the work group to submit its findings and recommendations to the House and Senate education committees and the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate Committee on Finance no later than Jan. 31, 2015.