

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 140

BY REPRESENTATIVE WESLEY BISHOP

EDUCATION: Expresses support for the My Brother's Keeper initiative and requests that BESE monitor and submit a report to the legislature relative to the education-related recommendations of the My Brother's Keeper Task Force

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express support for the My Brother's Keeper initiative and to urge and request the State
3 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to monitor the findings and
4 recommendations of the My Brother's Keeper Task Force as they pertain to
5 elementary and secondary education and to submit a written report to the House
6 Committee on Education relative to such findings and recommendations and their
7 potential application in Louisiana not later than 60 days prior to the beginning of the
8 2015 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

9 WHEREAS, as stated in the Constitution of Louisiana, it is the goal of the public
10 education system to provide learning environments and experiences at all stages of human
11 development that are humane, just, and designed to promote excellence in order that every
12 individual may be afforded an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential; and

13 WHEREAS, in February of 2014, President Barack Obama established the My
14 Brother's Keeper initiative, an interagency effort to measurably improve the expected
15 educational and life outcomes for and address the persistent opportunity gaps faced by boys
16 and young men of color, including African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Native
17 Americans; and

18 WHEREAS, the My Brother's Keeper initiative is aimed at unlocking the full
19 potential of boys and young men of color, an effort that will not only benefit these
20 individuals but all Americans; and

1 WHEREAS, the My Brother's Keeper Task Force has been established by the
2 president for the purpose of developing a coordinated federal effort to improve significantly
3 the expected life outcomes for boys and young men of color and their contributions to the
4 nation's prosperity; and

5 WHEREAS, the task force has been directed to focus on the following issues with
6 respect to education, among others: access to early childhood supports, grade school
7 literacy, and pathways to college and a career, including issues arising from school
8 disciplinary action; and

9 WHEREAS, in order to fulfill the state's constitutional duty of affording every
10 student an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential, it is appropriate that the State
11 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education monitor the findings and recommendations
12 of the My Brother's Keeper Task Force with respect to elementary and secondary education
13 and evaluate how they may be applied in Louisiana in order to improve the welfare of boys
14 and young men of color in this state.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express support for the My Brother's Keeper initiative
17 and does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
18 (BESE) to monitor the findings and recommendations of the My Brother's Keeper Task
19 Force as they pertain to elementary and secondary education.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby urge
21 and request BESE to focus specifically on the task force's findings and recommendations
22 with respect to education issues including the following:

- 23 (1) Access to early childhood supports.
24 (2) Grade school literacy.
25 (3) Pathways to college and a career, including issues arising from school
26 disciplinary action.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby urge
28 and request BESE to submit a written report to the House Committee on Education relative
29 to the task force's findings and recommendations pertaining to elementary and secondary
30 education and their potential application in Louisiana, including any recommendations for

1 related legislation, not later than 60 days prior to the beginning of the 2015 Regular Session
2 of the Legislature.

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

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)]

Wesley Bishop

HR No. 140

Expresses support for the My Brother's Keeper initiative and requests that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) do the following:

- (1) Monitor the findings and recommendations of the My Brother's Keeper Task Force as they pertain to elementary and secondary education.
- (2) Focus specifically on the task force's findings and recommendations with respect to education issues that include access to early childhood supports, grade school literacy, and pathways to college and a career, including issues arising from school disciplinary action.
- (3) Submit a written report to the House Committee on Education relative to the task force's findings and recommendations and their potential application in La., including any recommendations for legislation, by 60 days prior to the 2015 R.S.