



1 Louisiana women entering STEM career fields, in which the gender wage gap tends to be  
2 narrower and the wages higher than in other fields; and

3 WHEREAS, the report finds that increasing girls' exposure and access to hands-on  
4 activities and high-quality science labs and technology can help increase the number of  
5 young women pursuing careers in STEM fields and further provides that education leaders  
6 should work to identify new resources to help provide additional skills development  
7 opportunities for teachers and students.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
9 urge and request the state Department of Education and the governing authority of each  
10 public elementary and secondary school to implement the following measures based on the  
11 Louisiana Women's Policy and Research Commission's recommendations pertaining to  
12 science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education in its 2013 report to the  
13 governor:

14 (1) The legislature urges and requests the state Department of Education to seek  
15 funding and public-private partnerships to increase access to technology at all public  
16 schools.

17 (2) The legislature urges and requests the governing authority of each public  
18 elementary and secondary school to make capital investments in building and upgrading  
19 science labs for middle and high school students a budget priority, to aggressively seek  
20 public-private partnerships to increase the availability of professional development  
21 opportunities for teachers in the sciences, especially engineering, and to encourage middle  
22 and high schools to establish STEM-related clubs for students and actively encourage female  
23 students to join them.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
25 to the state superintendent of education, the president of the State Board of Elementary and  
26 Secondary Education, the executive director of the Louisiana School Boards Association,  
27 and the executive director of the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools.

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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)]

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Smith

HCR No. 156

Requests that the state Dept. of Education (DOE) and public school governing authorities implement the following measures based on the La. Women's Policy and Research Commission's recommendations pertaining to science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) education in its 2013 report to the governor:

- (1) The legislature requests that DOE seek funding and public-private partnerships to increase access to technology at public schools.
- (2) The legislature requests that public school governing authorities make capital investments in building and upgrading science labs a budget priority, seek public-private partnerships to increase the availability of professional development opportunities for teachers in the sciences, and encourage middle and high schools to establish STEM-related clubs and actively encourage female students to join them.