

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 197

BY SENATOR APPEL

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT. Requests the La. Association of Independent Colleges and Universities and the state's private colleges and universities to study viable options for Louisiana's private postsecondary institutions to contribute toward meeting the state's workforce needs.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities to  
3 study viable options for the private colleges and universities to contribute to meeting  
4 the workforce gap of college completions and degrees needed for Louisiana four-  
5 and five-star jobs.

6 WHEREAS, Louisiana is in the midst of an economic renaissance with eighty  
7 thousand new jobs and more than fifty billion dollars in private capital added since 2008;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the next challenge is to ensure that Louisiana has the skilled workforce  
10 to fill these jobs of the future; and

11 WHEREAS, economists have recently said that they have never seen an industrial  
12 expansion like the one underway in Louisiana but have also warned that Louisiana must do  
13 a better job training skilled workers that will be needed to fill the demand for jobs at the  
14 major industrial and high tech projects coming to Louisiana; and

15 WHEREAS, the Legislature created the Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger  
16 Economy Plan to strengthen the collaboration between public higher education, economic  
17 development, and workforce commission; and

18 WHEREAS, the degree production in four and five star jobs as indicated by the

1 Louisiana Workforce Commission include degrees in computer and information science,  
2 engineering, biological and physical sciences, finance and accounting, and healthcare; and

3 WHEREAS, Louisiana's private colleges and universities currently produce over  
4 three thousand graduates in these same areas; and

5 WHEREAS, the private colleges and universities are a resource for the public good  
6 of the State.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does  
8 hereby urge and request that the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and  
9 Universities study viable options that the private colleges and universities might undertake  
10 to help close the workforce gap in high demand four- and five-star jobs as well as strengthen  
11 collaboration with public higher education, economic development, and workforce  
12 commission.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges  
14 and Universities submit a written report to the Senate and House committees on education  
15 by March 1, 2015, regarding options and recommendations.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
17 President of the Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

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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

Appel

SR No. 197

Requests the La. Assoc. of Independent Colleges and Universities study viable options that the private colleges and universities might undertake to help close the workforce gap in high demand four- and five-star jobs as well as strengthen collaboration with public higher education, economic development, and workforce commission.

Requires a written report to be submitted to the Senate and House committees on education by March 1, 2015, regarding options and recommendations.