

1 WHEREAS, in addition to a specified high school core curriculum, a student must
2 attain an overall minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 to qualify for admission to any
3 public university; and

4 WHEREAS, beyond these requirements, a student must also attain either a minimum
5 composite ACT score or a minimum GPA on core high school courses, and the baselines on
6 the score and GPA differ based on the university's classification; for admission to the
7 flagship university, a student must have a minimum GPA on the core courses of 3.0 or a
8 minimum ACT score of 25; for admission to a statewide university, a student must have a
9 minimum GPA on the core courses of 2.5 or a minimum ACT score of 23; and for admission
10 to a regional university, a student must have a minimum GPA on the core courses of 2.0 or
11 a minimum ACT score of 20; and

12 WHEREAS, according to the Master Plan for Public Postsecondary Education in
13 Louisiana: 2011, the University of New Orleans (UNO) is a comprehensive university with
14 a mission to educate undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of arts, sciences, and
15 professional programs and to conduct research in these fields; and

16 WHEREAS, UNO attracted nearly fifty million dollars in extramural research and
17 training awards in Fiscal Year 2016 and is classified by the Carnegie Classification of
18 Institutions of Higher Education as a doctoral research university with higher research, one
19 of only two Louisiana universities with this classification, which is the second highest
20 Carnegie status that can be achieved; and

21 WHEREAS, under the current Board of Regents classification system and associated
22 admission standards, there are those who question whether UNO is able to properly fulfill
23 its mission for the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area, which had a 2016 population
24 of approximately one million two hundred fifty thousand persons and an average ACT score
25 of 19.7 for the 2015-2016 school year, and who believe that a new classification of urban
26 research institution is necessary to provide sufficient opportunities to conduct applied
27 research while serving both regional and state citizens electing to pursue education and
28 training at UNO, the city's only public research institution; and

29 WHEREAS, according to the Master Plan for Public Postsecondary Education in
30 Louisiana: 2011, Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO), as the only public,

1 historically black university in New Orleans, is primarily a teaching institution whose
2 mission is successful education of undergraduate students and services to the employers and
3 communities in its region; and

4 WHEREAS, under the Board of Regents classification system and associated
5 admission standards, many are concerned about whether SUNO is able to properly fulfill this
6 mission in its region and believe that reclassification or modification of the admission
7 standards is needed in order for SUNO to successfully fulfill its mission.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
9 urge and request the Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors for the University of
10 Louisiana System to study jointly the possibility of revising the classification and admission
11 standards of the University of New Orleans and the Board of Regents and the Board of
12 Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College to study jointly
13 the possibility of revising the classification and admission standards of Southern University
14 at New Orleans and to submit a report of their findings and recommendations to the House
15 Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days
16 prior to the beginning of the 2018 Regular Session of the Legislature.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
18 to the chairman of the Board of Regents, the commissioner of higher education, the chairman
19 of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, the president of the
20 University of Louisiana System, the president of the University of New Orleans, the
21 chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and
22 Mechanical College, the president of the Southern University System, and the president of
23 Southern University at New Orleans.

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)]

Requests that the Bd. of Regents and the Bd. of Supervisors for the Univ. of La. System study jointly the possibility of revising the classification and admission standards of the Univ. of New Orleans and that the Bd. of Regents and the Bd. of Supervisors of Southern Univ. study jointly the possibility of revising the classification and admission standards of

Southern Univ. at New Orleans and submit reports of findings and recommendations to the House and Senate education committees prior to the 2018 R.S.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Education to the original resolution:

1. Add request that the Bd. of Regents and the Bd. of Supervisors of Southern Univ. study the possibility of revising the classification and admission standards of Southern Univ. at New Orleans.