

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 94

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROADWATER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to establish a process and promulgate rules for all online course content for pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade and all online courses offered to students for initial credit or core academic credit recovery offerings and certain other online courses, which courses shall be approved by the state Department of Education at the same standard as required for the Course Choice Program, and to submit a report to the House Committee on Education on the status of the implementation of such process and any related recommendations.

WHEREAS, the legislature recognizes that all Louisiana students should have access to a quality education that best meets their unique needs; and

WHEREAS, each student has different needs that require access to courses presented in multiple ways from a wide range of educational providers; and

WHEREAS, online courses can personalize learning at scale and enable students to achieve dramatically improved outcomes; and

WHEREAS, online instruction offers a quality, individualized education to students who seek access to additional high quality courses, especially those enrolled in low-performing public schools and those whose educational choices are limited by geography and financial means; and

WHEREAS, the legislature recognized the value of online instruction by authorizing the statewide Course Choice Program in 2012 which charged the state Department of Education with ensuring student access, instructional alignment, rigor, and quality as it relates to such program; and

WHEREAS, successful implementation of online instruction will bolster the state's goal of providing a quality education for every Louisiana student and will enable students to successfully transition to postsecondary education and the workplace; and

WHEREAS, certain online instruction should meet the same standards as teachers and online course providers approved for the Course Choice Program so that there is consistent delivery of academic standards as defined in state board policy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to create an approval process and promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act for all online course content for pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade and all online courses offered to students for initial credit or core academic credit recovery offerings and online courses that can be applied to the Jump Start Career Diploma or the TOPS University Diploma for graduation credits, which courses shall be approved by the state Department of Education at the same standard as required for the Course Choice Program, and to submit a report to the House Committee on Education by not later than January 31, 2018, on the status of the implementation of such process and any recommendations relative thereto.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES