SLS 18RS-2661 ENGROSSED

2018 Regular Session

1

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 76

BY SENATOR JOHNS AND REPRESENTATIVE DWIGHT

BESE. Requests BESE to ascertain whether all public, approved nonpublic, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and other school administrators for whom suicide awareness training is deemed beneficial are in compliance with the Jason Flatt Act.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

## 2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to ascertain whether the Jason Flatt Act is complied with by all Louisiana public, approved 3 nonpublic, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and other 4 5 school administrators for whom suicide awareness training is deemed beneficial. WHEREAS, suicide is the third leading cause of death for Louisiana teens; and 6 7 WHEREAS, the Jason Flatt Act, R.S. 17:437.1, was unanimously enacted in the 2008 8 Regular Session and requires that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education 9 (BESE) develop and adopt guidelines for in-service training in suicide prevention and 10 identify suitable materials for use in such training; and 11 WHEREAS, R.S. 17:437.1 also requires BESE adopt rules to require that all public and approved nonpublic school teachers, school counselors, and principals and, as 12 13 determined by BESE, other school administrators for whom such training is deemed 14 beneficial participate annually in at least two hours of in-service training in suicide prevention and include provisions permitting such training to be provided by self-review of 15 suitable materials; and 16 WHEREAS, the purpose of the Jason Flatt Act is to save the lives of Louisiana teens 17 18 by requiring two hours of mandatory suicide awareness training annually for all Louisiana

public, nonpublic, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and other school administrators for whom suicide awareness training is deemed beneficial; and

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the legislature that the Jason Flatt Act has not been, and is not now, being complied with by all Louisiana educational personnel subject to its mandate; and

WHEREAS, it is of utmost importance that the Jason Flatt Act be complied with on a uniform and consistent basis by all Louisiana educational personnel subject to its mandate to avoid the unnecessary loss of Louisiana teen lives to suicide.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education is hereby urged and requested to annually survey all Louisiana public, approved nonpublic, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and other school administrators for whom suicide awareness training is deemed beneficial in order to ascertain their compliance with R.S. 17:437.1.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education mandate that all Louisiana school governing authorities document and verify to the state Department of Education by December thirty-first of each year that all Louisiana public, approved nonpublic, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and other school administrators for whom suicide awareness training is deemed beneficial have received the mandated annual two hour suicide awareness in-service training through use of BESE's adopted suicide awareness curriculum.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall submit a written report of survey findings and any recommendations to ensure compliance with the Jason Flatt Act to the Senate Committee on Education, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, and the House Committee on Health and Welfare not later than March first of each year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state superintendent of education, the governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the chairman of the House Committee on Education, and the chairman of the House Committee

SLS 18RS-2661 ENGROSSED
SCR NO. 76

on Health and Welfare.

1

The original instrument was prepared by Jerry J. Guillot. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Jeanne Johnston.

## DIGEST 2018 Regular Session

Johns

SCR 76 Engrossed

Requests BESE to annually survey all Louisiana public, approved nonpublic, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and other school administrators for whom suicide awareness training is deemed beneficial to ascertain whether they are in compliance with R.S. 17:437.1, the Jason Flatt Act.

Requests BESE to mandate that all school governing authorities document and verify to the state Department of Education by December thirty-first of each year that all Louisiana public, approved nonpublic, and charter school teachers, school counselors, principals, and other school administrators for whom suicide awareness training is deemed beneficial have received the mandated training through use of the BESE's adopted suicide awareness curriculum.

Requests BESE to submit a written report of survey findings and any recommendations to ensure compliance with the Jason Flatt Act to the Senate Committee on Education, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, and the House Committee on Health and Welfare not later than March first of each year.

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

## <u>Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Education to the original bill</u>

- 1. Requests, instead of directs, BESE to comply with provisions of Resolution.
- 2. Requests BESE to annually survey schools and school districts to ascertain their compliance with required suicide awareness training.
- 3. Makes technical changes.