

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 141

BY SENATOR WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state Department of Education, and each city, parish, and other public school board to maximize the funding and availability of dual enrollment courses.

WHEREAS, dual enrollment is enrollment of a high school student in a college course for which a student receives credit on both his high school and college transcripts for the same course; and

WHEREAS, dual enrollment courses enrich and increase the rigor of the high school curriculum and allow students to earn valuable college credit hours while still in high school; and

WHEREAS, accumulating college credits while still in high school helps a student successfully transition to college from high school and complete postsecondary studies in a shorter time frame, which results in a cost-savings and allows the student to enter the workforce earlier; and

WHEREAS, research data indicate that successful dual enrollment students are more likely to graduate from high school, enroll in college, and graduate with a degree or other credential; and

WHEREAS, while the demand for dual enrollment course continues to rise and student participation in dual enrollment courses is steadily increasing, dual enrollment course offerings fall short of demand; and

WHEREAS, currently, dual enrollment costs are supported through the Minimum Foundation Program formula, the Education Excellence Fund, 8(g) funds, other state and federal funds, and local revenues; and

WHEREAS, the demand for dual enrollment courses vastly exceeds the amount derived from all existing funding streams combined; and

WHEREAS, the lack of funding and availability of dual enrollment courses is lacking statewide, the impact is felt most keenly in rural areas; and

WHEREAS, it behooves all school governing authorities to do their utmost to find the additional revenue necessary to expand dual enrollment course opportunities, so that every student who wishes to participate might reap the demonstrated benefits of earning dual enrollment credits.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state Department of Education, and each city, parish, and other public school board to maximize the funding and availability of dual enrollment courses.

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

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE