

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY SENATORS JACKSON, ALLAIN, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUIE, CATHEY, CLOUD, CORTEZ, FESI, FIELDS, FOIL, HARRIS, JOHNS, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, WHITE AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to create a continuous learning task force to assist the state Department of Education in developing guidance for Louisiana educators to meet the immediate need of supporting learning outside of our normal practices.

WHEREAS, the response to the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated the closing of school buildings across the state; and

WHEREAS, such closure left school leaders and school teachers seeking additional avenues to best meet the learning needs of all students in new ways; and

WHEREAS, local leaders have to make many decisions tailored to the unique needs of their student population, staff, and resources; and

WHEREAS, directives from the state may not be flexible enough to allow local leaders to adequately address all of the needs of their community, but solid guidance with a consistent framework of expectations from the state may open opportunities and foster partnerships previously overlooked; and

WHEREAS, other states, such as Kansas, have, in a very short period, seen success from bringing together various stakeholders and forming a task force to share expertise and insight to help envision methods to ensure continuous learning in these unprecedented times; and

WHEREAS, many of Louisiana's students were already struggling to achieve academic success; and

WHEREAS, all of our students deserve to be provided educational resources now to ensure they are successful in their studies, even while this pandemic persists.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to create a

continuous learning task force to assist the state Department of Education in developing guidance for Louisiana educators to meet the immediate need of supporting learning outside of our normal practices.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the task force shall include an appointee by the governor; a member of the Louisiana Senate, appointed by the Senate president; a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives; the state superintendent of education; a member of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, appointed by the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; a designee of Louisiana Television Educational Authority; a designee of the Louisiana School Boards Association; a designee of the Louisiana Public Charter School Association; a designee of the Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana; a designee of the Louisiana Association of Educators; a designee of the Louisiana Federation of Teachers; a designee of the Council for a Better Louisiana; a designee of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry; a designee of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana; a local school superintendent of a school district with a student population in excess of ten thousand students and a local school superintendent of a school district with a student population of less than ten thousand students, each designated by the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents; a designee of the Louisiana Principals Association; and two parents of public school children, one of whom shall be the parent of a child who is designated in need of special education services, selected by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education from nominees of the individual members of the board.

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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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES