HLS 201ES-89 ENGROSSED

2020 First Extraordinary Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 12

BY REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: Directs the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council to study and submit a report to the legislature relative to funding and programs for workforce development

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To authorize and direct the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council to study and report on
3	resources available and innovative ways to coordinate and rapidly deploy
4	opportunities for retraining and developing new skills for Louisiana workers who are
5	unemployed because of the COVID-19 crisis.
6	WHEREAS, the state's response to the contagion of COVID-19 required a large scale
7	disruption of the state's economy as many businesses were closed in order to protect the
8	public health and to prevent a spike in demand for healthcare services that would have
9	overwhelmed the capacity of the healthcare system to provide services; and
10	WHEREAS, the closing of so many businesses resulted in hundreds of thousands of
11	Louisianans losing their jobs; and
12	WHEREAS, as the threat of COVID-19 subsides, some of Louisiana's labor force
13	will return to the fields that they left, bringing their training and experience with them, but
14	many will not be so lucky; it is already clear that the pandemic experience is changing social
15	arrangements which will in turn result in fundamental changes to the Louisiana economy;
16	and
17	WHEREAS, Louisiana needs to respond to this situation quickly and on a large scale;
18	every possible avenue for retraining and developing new skills for workers who have been
19	dislocated by the economic disruption needs to be explored and harnessed in the immediate
20	future for the sake of the individual workers and the health of the state's overall economy.

1	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
2	authorize and direct the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council to study and report on
3	resources available and innovative ways to coordinate and rapidly deploy opportunities for
4	retraining and developing new skills for Louisiana workers who are unemployed because of
5	the COVID-19 crisis, all as further provided by this Resolution.
6	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study and report shall include the following:
7	(1) Identification and evaluation of all funds and programs that might be applied to
8	this challenge including: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds, TOPS-Tech
9	awards, needs-based financial assistance available to students, Supplemental Nutrition
10	Assistance Program-Employment and Training funds, Strategies to Empower People funds
11	and programs, Rapid Response Workforce Training funds and programs, Louisiana
12	Economic Development Fast Start training programs, the Incumbent Worker Training
13	Program, and all relevant tax credits available to employers and workers; every effort shall
14	be made to present information on such programs in aggregate statewide data and data by
15	region with demographic indicators for the most recent year data is available, including but
16	not limited to the amount of public expenditures, the physical locations that serve the public,
17	the number of individuals served, the number of individuals who complete the programs, the
18	types of training and credentials received, and employment in the field after training.
19	(2) Ideas for better structural and programmatic coordination among state agencies
20	to facilitate connecting each dislocated worker with a package of training options that is
21	applicable to his or her situation and identification of policy and legal barriers to such
22	coordination.
23	(3) Strategies for quickly moving unemployed workers into training for available
24	jobs, including one-stop resources that unemployed workers could use to explore their
25	options and receive seamlessly integrated services, including both internet and regional
26	office-based resources.
27	(4) National best practices and new models for management, financing, and delivery
28	of workforce training programs.
29	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Workforce Investment Council
30	shall solicit ideas, data, information, and suggestions from relevant state and local

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- 1 government agencies, postsecondary education institutions that manage such programs, and
- 2 interested parties including employers, agency personnel, educators and trainers, economic
- 3 experts, economic development organizations, trade associations, labor organizations,
- 4 nonprofit organizations, and Louisiana workers who are looking for opportunities.
- 5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall be submitted to the Legislature
- 6 of Louisiana in accordance with R.S. 24:772 by September 30, 2020.
- 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
- 8 secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the chairman of the Louisiana Workforce
- 9 Investment Council, the commissioner of higher education, the chairman of the Board of
- 10 Regents, the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, the secretary of
- 11 Louisiana Economic Development, and the secretary of the Louisiana Department of
- 12 Revenue.

## 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)]

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Directs the La. Workforce Investment Council to study and report on resources available and innovative ways to coordinate and rapidly deploy opportunities for retraining and developing new skills for La. workers who are unemployed because of the COVID-19 crisis.

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

- 1. Change agencies directed to undertake the study <u>from</u> the Bd. of Regents and the La. Workforce Commission to the La. Workforce Investment Council.
- 2. Remove requirement for holding public hearings.