HLS 21RS-822 ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Creates a task force to study how to develop a more diverse group of candidates for head coach and athletic director positions at public postsecondary education institutions

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To create a task force to study issues relative to a lack of racial minority and female
3	candidates for athletic director and head coach positions at public postsecondary
4	education institutions and to submit a written report of findings and
5	recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee
6	on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2022 Regular
7	Session of the Legislature.
8	WHEREAS, the collegiate sports system needs to confront its hiring disparities in
9	order to diversify its workforce; and
10	WHEREAS, according to Arne Duncan, the former U.S. secretary of education,
11	"College sport has to adopt a rule that will mandate diverse pools of candidates for all major
12	positions"; and
13	WHEREAS, athletic programs at colleges and universities in Louisiana would
14	benefit from the employment of a more diverse workforce, including African American,
15	American Indian, Asian, Latino, and female staff members; and
16	WHEREAS, members of the Legislature of Louisiana believe that structured
17	dialogue and engagement will illuminate the path forward in addressing these challenges.
18	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
19	create the Louisiana Minority Sports Initiative Task Force to research strategies to secure
20	a stronger, more diverse collegiate athletic workforce.

1	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the
2	following members:
3	(1) The speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee.
4	(2) The president of the Senate or his designee.
5	(3) The Louisiana State University system president.
6	(4) The Louisiana State University athletics director.
7	(5) The Louisiana community and technical college system president.
8	(6) The Southern University system president.
9	(7) The Southern University director of athletics.
10	(8) The University of Louisiana system president.
11	(9) The Grambling State University director of athletics.
12	(10) The Louisiana Tech University director of athletics.
13	(11) The Tulane University director of athletics.
14	(12) The McNeese State University director of athletics.
15	(13) The director of the Bureau of Minority Health Access within the Louisiana
16	Department of Health, Office of Community Partnerships and Health Equity.
17	(14) The New Orleans Pelicans and New Orleans Saints director of unification/youth
18	programs.
19	(15) The New Orleans Pelicans and New Orleans Saints human resources manager.
20	(16) The executive director of the Doug Williams Center for the Study of Race and
21	Politics in Sports.
22	(17) Three members from the private sector, to be chosen by the task force chairman
23	after the first meeting of the task force.
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall provide staff support,
25	to be provided from existing personnel.
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, at the first meeting of the task force, the
27	members shall elect a chairman and other officers as they may deem appropriate from among
28	members of the task force.
29	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force shall receive no
30	compensation for their services and shall serve at no expense to the state.

1	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of
2	findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate
3	Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2022 Regular
4	Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.
5	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this report shall include but not be limited to any
6	suggested legislation to help ensure a more diverse pool of candidates for collegiate athletic
7	positions and shall include findings and recommendations from the following tasks charged
8	to the task force:
9	(1) Exploring answers to the following questions:
10	(a) What is the number-one priority for a person in charge of hiring when such a
11	person makes a hiring decision?
12	(b) How important is the applicant's knowledge in a particular sport?
13	(c) Is there an expectation of an advanced degree?
14	(2) Creating best practices for minority applicants to have exposure to decision
15	makers who generally hire individuals "they know" or are "comfortable with".
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana acknowledges the
17	significant work The Doug Williams Center for the Study of Race and Politics in Sports has
18	done to help build an ever-growing network of solutions for diversity and inclusion in
19	collegiate and professional sports and urges the staff of the center to pursue the following:
20	(1) Developing programs to teach candidates interview techniques.
21	(2) Creating clinics for coaches on the following:
22	(a) Public speaking fundamentals.
23	(b) Recruiting techniques and strategies.
24	(c) Contract negotiations.
25	(d) Salary cap management.
26	(e) Organizational leadership and motivation.
27	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consider these pursuits of
28	The Doug Williams Center in preparing the report required by this Resolution.

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## **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)]

HCR 19 Original

2021 Regular Session

Brass

Creates the La. Minority Sports Initiative Task Force to study strategies and best procedures for developing a qualified pool of applicants that includes more minority individuals for athletic positions at public postsecondary education institutions.