

2021 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

BY SENATOR FIELDS

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Requests the state Department of Education to identify providers of violence and suicide prevention training that is available at no or low cost.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the state Department of Education to identify no cost and low cost  
3 evidence-based training providers for students regarding social inclusion, violence  
4 prevention, and suicide prevention, and to submit a written report of its findings to  
5 the Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education no later  
6 than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature.

7 WHEREAS, the safety of young people and maintaining safe school environments  
8 is of primary importance to Louisiana and its citizens; and

9 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth  
10 Risk Behavior Survey, 12.4% of Louisiana students surveyed reported being threatened or  
11 injured on school property with a weapon, 19.3% were bullied on school property, 15% were  
12 cyber-bullied, 10.6% reported being involved in a physical fight on school property, and  
13 15% reported physical dating violence; and

14 WHEREAS, Louisiana's suicide rate is higher than the national average; and

15 WHEREAS, suicide is the leading cause of violence-related death for Louisiana  
16 youth ages 10 to 14, and the second leading cause thereafter; and

17 WHEREAS, in the majority of instances, students display warning signs or signals  
18 before taking harmful action; and

1           WHEREAS, reporting these signals ahead of time and to the appropriate entity can  
2 prevent violence and save lives; and

3           WHEREAS, the legislature acknowledges the importance of reporting youth violence  
4 in R.S. 17:416.13, relative to recognition and reporting of bullying, and R. S. 17:410, relative  
5 to the recognition and reporting of threats to safety in schools; and

6           WHEREAS, the legislature currently requires in-service training regarding violence  
7 prevention and suicide prevention for teachers, administrators, and other staff in R.S.  
8 17:437.1, but has no requirements to instruct students; and

9           WHEREAS, peer intervention training is a national best practice that is critically  
10 important to social inclusion and violence prevention; and

11           WHEREAS, using evidence-based practices is fundamental to the effectiveness of  
12 educational training.

13           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
14 urge and request the state Department of Education to identify no cost and low cost  
15 evidence-based training providers for students regarding social inclusion, violence  
16 prevention, and suicide prevention and to submit a written report of its findings to the Senate  
17 Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education no later than sixty days  
18 prior to the beginning of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature.

19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall include information from school  
20 districts on currently used training providers and their capabilities.

21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall include considerations of the  
22 evidence-based principles used by the identified providers.

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall also identify public and  
24 private grant funding opportunities to provide further training.

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall solicit the input,  
26 recommendations, and advice of the following:

27           (1) The chairperson of the Senate Committee on Education, or his designee.

28           (2) The chairperson of the House Committee on Education, or his designee.

29           (3) The president of the Louisiana Federation of Teachers, or his designee.

30           (4) The executive director of the Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana, or

