

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 126

BY REPRESENTATIVE MINCEY

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the state Department of Education to evaluate training required of teachers by law enacted by the legislature.

WHEREAS, teachers across Louisiana provide students with the tools they need to succeed in school and life; teachers carry to work every day the tremendous burden of responsibility for the future of society itself; and

WHEREAS, teachers' responsibilities can extend far beyond those listed in their job descriptions, and their commitment can extend far beyond the daily bell-to-bell timeframe; free minutes during the school day are few and far between; and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing training for teachers, including providing materials and equipment, is one of several factors that should be considered when training programs are mandated for the teacher workforce, in addition to the fullness of a teacher's typical work day; and

WHEREAS, unfunded mandates and uncompensated time required of teachers for completion of training programs should also be considered before requiring teachers to complete training programs; and

WHEREAS, while continuing education is vital for many professions, it is important to ensure Louisiana teachers are not overburdened with training programs and that the costs and benefits of such programs be carefully considered.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the state Department of Education to evaluate training required of teachers by law enacted by the legislature and to submit a report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education that includes the following information:

(1) A list of training sessions teachers are required to complete. "Teachers" includes kindergarten through twelfth grade teachers at public schools, including charter schools, and nonpublic schools that receive state funding.

(2) The governing entity that requires each such training.

(3) The costs of training and how it is funded.

(4) The time each training takes to complete.

(5) The frequency or intervals of each training.

(6) An assessment relative to when teachers complete required training, whether during school hours, time dedicated to personal development, personal time, or some combination thereof.

(7) Recommendations for revisions to current required training, including but not limited to the following:

(a) Topics to cover.

(b) Funding sources.

(c) Duration of training programs.

(d) Frequency of training.

(8) Recommendations for future mandated training.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall be submitted to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than January 19, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the state superintendent of education.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES