

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 69

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRASS, CORMIER, EDMONSTON, FIRMENT, FREIBERG,
GADBERRY, HORTON, LARVADAIN, MARINO, PIERRE, SCHAMERHORN,
AND SELDERS

CURRICULA/DRIVER ED: Requests establishment of credentials for commercial driver's
license classroom training

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state

3 Department of Education, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System,

4 and the Louisiana Workforce Commission to collaborate to establish an industry-

5 based credential offered through dual enrollment for the classroom instruction

6 portion of commercial driver's license training.

7 WHEREAS, as drivers age out of the workforce, driving schools close, and young

8 people pursue other opportunities, the American Trucking Association estimates a shortage

9 of 160,000 drivers by 2028; and

10 WHEREAS, according to the association, trucks move roughly 72.5% of the nation's

11 freight by weight; with a lack of drivers, delivering that freight will be a monumental task;

12 and

13 WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports about 28,100 openings for

14 diesel service technicians and mechanics are projected each year, on average, over the next

15 decade; many of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who

16 transfer to different occupations or retire; and

17 WHEREAS, the Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program, proposed by the Federal

18 Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), will soon become operational; the program

19 will allow people as young as eighteen to drive interstate semi trucks; and

1 WHEREAS, providing the classroom instruction portion of commercial driver's
2 license (CDL) certification to high school students through dual enrollment and subsequently
3 providing driving instruction after they have reached the age of eighteen will both shorten
4 the time between high school graduation and employment and reduce the cost to the students
5 pursuing CDLs or a transportation-related program; and

6 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) is
7 a member of the Next Generation in Trucking Association, a nonprofit organization creating
8 and promoting CDL driver and diesel technical training programs for the next generation;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, the Board of Regents and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
11 Education have demonstrated success through the Fast Forward Program, a program aimed
12 at achieving the goal that, beginning with the freshman class of 2025, all public high school
13 graduates in Louisiana will complete high school with academic or career-technical college
14 credit, a postsecondary credential of value, or both; and

15 WHEREAS, in the report submitted to the legislative transportation committees in
16 response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 62 of the 2021 Regular Session of the
17 Legislature, LCTCS proposed a framework offering both a logistics credential and a
18 postsecondary education credential of value covering the theory portion of the entry level
19 driving program, which is a requirement prior to entering the behind-the-wheel instruction;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the utilization of dual enrollment and the Fast Forward Program to
22 deliver the classroom instruction necessary for the CDL will help meet the demand for
23 drivers with CDLs in Louisiana and help provide additional high-wage and high-demand
24 employment opportunities to the young citizens of our state.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
26 urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state
27 Department of Education, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and the
28 Louisiana Workforce Commission to collaborate to establish an industry-based credential,
29 offered through dual enrollment, for the classroom instruction portion of CDL training.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the instruction shall cover the FMCSA's required
2 theory portion of the entry-level driver training program.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such instruction be made available to students
4 for the 2022-2023 school year.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
6 Education, the state Department of Education, the Louisiana Community and Technical
7 College System, and the Louisiana Workforce Commission shall provide a written report to
8 the House Committee on Education, Senate Committee on Education, House Committee on
9 Transportation, Highways and Public Works, and Senate Committee on Transportation,
10 Highways and Public Works not later than September 1, 2022, relative to progress made, any
11 impediments to implementation, and recommendations for any legislation necessary to
12 implement the charges of this Resolution.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
14 president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state
15 superintendent of education, the system president of the Louisiana Community and
16 Technical College System, and the secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

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 69 Engrossed

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Brass

Requests the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state Dept. of Education, the La. Community and Technical College System, and the La. Workforce Commission to collaborate to establish an industry-based credential offered through dual enrollment for the classroom instruction portion of commercial driver's license training.