

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 215

BY REPRESENTATIVE MINCEY

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: Urges and requests the Dept. of Education and the La. Workforce Commission to study the feasibility of establishing a program to incentivize businesses to work in partnership with high schools to offer job training and internship programs for students

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Education and the Louisiana Workforce Commission
3 to work jointly to study the feasibility of establishing a program to incentivize
4 businesses to work in partnership with high schools to offer job training and
5 internship programs for students which will help prepare students for careers in high-
6 wage, high-demand industries and to report their findings to the House Committee
7 on Ways and Means prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session.

8 WHEREAS, the House Committee on Ways and Means, in hearings during the 2023
9 Regular Session, particularly House Bill No. 637 by Representative Mincey, received
10 testimony from interested parties concerning the establishment of an income and corporate
11 franchise tax credit for companies that employ eligible students as interns in work-based
12 programs designed to educate students in classroom settings as well as incorporate on-the-
13 job training in high-wage, high-demand industry sectors; and

14 WHEREAS, during discussion on House Bill No. 637, questions were raised
15 regarding the establishment of a broader program that would encourage more businesses to
16 participate and methods to notify schools of the possibility of participating in such a
17 program; and

18 WHEREAS, more details need to be determined concerning the high-wage, high-
19 demand industry sectors that should be targeted in this program including but not limited to
20 details concerning the number of internships that should be eligible for the incentive, the

1 number of credit hours that students should earn for participating in the program,
2 determining regional or economic priorities, and pay levels of internships in order for the
3 program to be mutually beneficial to businesses, school systems, and students; and

4 WHEREAS, Louisiana has a history of offering incentives in the form of tax credits,
5 exemptions, deductions, and rebates when the state is attempting to develop a business
6 industry for the benefit of all citizens of the state; and

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Workforce Commission is the state agency that is charged
8 with developing a skilled workforce for Louisiana citizens and meeting the needs of industry
9 sectors located in this state; and

10 WHEREAS, the Department of Education is charged with developing the education
11 curriculum for students in Kindergarten through twelfth grade in order to prepare students
12 to be successful in college or to achieve career credentials; and

13 WHEREAS, the Department of Education and the Louisiana Workforce Commission
14 are the two state agencies in the best position to develop a program that satisfies the
15 educational needs of students and to develop skills to enable students who are not necessarily
16 candidates for higher education to be trained through internship programs to prepare them
17 to be career-ready for the betterment of their futures while meeting the needs of employers
18 and industry sectors for the betterment of the state of Louisiana.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Education and the
21 Louisiana Workforce Commission to work jointly to study the feasibility of establishing a
22 program to incentivize businesses to work in partnership with high schools to offer job
23 training and internship programs for students which will help prepare students for careers
24 in high-wage, high-demand industries and to report their findings to the House Committee
25 on Ways and Means prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education and the Louisiana
27 Workforce Commission should work closely with all stakeholders and interested parties to
28 develop this program including but not limited to representatives from the Louisiana
29 Association of School Superintendents, the Louisiana School Boards Association, the

1 Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools, the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, and
2 YouthForce NOLA.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
4 secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission and the state superintendent of education.

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)]

HR 215 Original

2023 Regular Session

Mincey

Urges and requests the Dept. of Education and the La. Workforce Commission to work jointly to study the feasibility of establishing a program to incentivize businesses to work in partnership with high schools to offer job training and internship programs for students which will help prepare students for careers in high-wage, high-demand industries and to report their findings to the House Committee on Ways and Means prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session.