

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the state Department of Education to update its early childhood care and education data management systems.

WHEREAS, early experiences affect the development of brain architecture, providing the foundation of all future learning, health, and behavior; early years, from birth to age four, form the basis for cognition, literacy and learning, social and emotional development, physical development, and more; and

WHEREAS, because these early years are when the foundation of the brain is built, children who begin school behind tend to remain behind; every child deserves access to early childhood care and education to help ensure a strong foundation for future learning; and

WHEREAS, currently only forty percent of students in Louisiana arrive to their first day of kindergarten meeting crucial benchmarks; quality early care and education can lay a foundation for future educational success from elementary school through postsecondary and adult education; and

WHEREAS, breaking down potential barriers for parents and providers can help more children find themselves in the early childhood settings that are best suited for them; and

WHEREAS, the state Department of Education manages pre-kindergarten through grade 12 education; certain data systems currently maintained by the department are not sufficient to meet the needs of parents and early care providers of Louisiana in the 21st century; the systems can be difficult for parents and providers to navigate; and

WHEREAS, the department is in the process of improving its data systems and it is urgent that this be completed as soon as possible; more user-friendly systems will help parents and providers access the quality services the state department offers with ease, ultimately helping more young children more easily access quality early childhood care and education throughout the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the state Department of Education to update its early childhood care and education data management systems.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state Department of Education shall submit a report relative to the status of the improvement of its early childhood care and education data systems to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than March 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the state superintendent of education and the members of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE