

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY REPRESENTATIVES CHENEVERT, AMEDEE, BAYHAM, BERAULT, BILLINGS, BROUSSARD, CARLSON, CARVER, CREWS, DICKERSON, EDMONSTON, GLORIOSO, HORTON, JACOB LANDRY, MARTINEZ, MCMAKIN, MELERINE, OWEN, SAWYER, SCHAMERHORN, SCHLEGEL, SPELL, VENTRELLA, AND WYBLE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to incorporate the science of human growth and development into the state content standards for the subjects of science or health education, to provide resources on its website for materials and information that may be used in curriculum and instruction related to the standards, and to submit a written report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than March 1, 2027.

WHEREAS, current law, R.S. 17:24.4, requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to develop state content standards for required subjects; state content standards are statements that define what a student should know or be able to accomplish at the end of a specific time period or grade level or at the completion of a course; and

WHEREAS, there are content standards for the subjects of science and health education, both of which are subjects in which it would be appropriate to incorporate standards on the science of human growth and development; and

WHEREAS, current law, R.S. 17:6(A)(15), authorizes BESE to promulgate rules that require the inclusion of certain topics in student instruction; and

WHEREAS, current middle and high school science and health standards provide for topics related to genetic traits, embryo development, sexual reproduction, living things made

of cells and distinction between living and non-living things, and cellular contribution to the whole of an organism, but there is no requirement for instruction on human development from conception to birth; and

WHEREAS, the use of high definition ultrasound video and computer-generated animation showing the development of vital organs in the early stages of human fetal development is being incorporated into instruction across the country in courses concerning human biology.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to incorporate the science of human growth and development, including instruction on prenatal growth and in utero development of all vital organs and significant markers and cell growth, into the state content standards for the subjects of science or health education at an age- and grade-appropriate level.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature urges and requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to provide age- and grade-appropriate materials and information on its website that may be used in curriculum and instruction related to the standards, including high definition ultrasound video or computer-generated animation that depicts prenatal growth and development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature urges and requests the state Department of Education to provide scientifically accurate and age-and-grade-appropriate materials and information on its website that have been approved by the surgeon general and may be used in curriculum and instruction related to the standards, including high definition ultrasound video or computer-generated animation that depicts prenatal growth and development.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature urges and requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to submit a written report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than March 1, 2027, relative to any action taken with respect to the content standards and the clearinghouse as requested in this Resolution.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE