

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

17 WHEREAS, though foreign exchange students are expected to be fully proficient in
18 English, there is concern that some are not and that this can be detrimental to both the
19 students' learning experiences and School Performance Scores used in the state's school and
20 district accountability program; and

1 WHEREAS, BESE rule, Part CXI, Section 3307, provides for certain approved
2 accommodations in the testing of Limited English Proficient (LEP) students, including
3 extended time/adjusted time, individual/small group instruction, provision of English/native
4 language word-to-word dictionary, the test being read aloud, and the test being administered
5 by an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher or by the individual providing language
6 services; and

7 WHEREAS, foreign language students' educational experiences, as well as the
8 chances of both the students and their schools being successful in the area of assessment,
9 might improve if certain test accommodations, perhaps similar to those provided for LEP
10 students, were provided for foreign exchange students; and

11 WHEREAS, in order to fulfill the state's constitutional duty of affording every
12 student an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential, it is imperative that issues
13 related to the assessment of foreign exchange students receive a thorough evaluation.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15 urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study issues
16 related to the assessment of foreign exchange students and to submit, in compliance with
17 R.S. 24:771 and 772, a written report of its findings and conclusions, including any
18 recommendations for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education
19 and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of
20 the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such issues shall include but not be limited to
22 an examination of the English proficiency levels of foreign exchange students, the effect of
23 the assessment of such students on School Performance Scores, and the possibility of
24 allowing certain test accommodations in the assessment of such students.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26 president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary 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)]

Hoffmann

HCR No. 25

Requests that BESE study issues related to the assessment of foreign exchange students and submit a written report of findings and recommendations to the House and Senate education committees at least 60 days before the beginning of the 2012 R.S.