

1 BESE and requires the assignment of letter grades based on performance scores to schools
2 and districts; and

3 WHEREAS, BESE policy provides for a one hundred fifty point scale used to align
4 school and district performance scores with corresponding letter grades, as follows: a
5 performance score of 100-150 is an "A", a score of 85-99.9 is a "B", a score of 70-84.9 is a
6 "C", a score of 50-69.9 is a "D", and any score below 50 is an "F"; and

7 WHEREAS, meanwhile, for students in grades kindergarten through twelve, BESE
8 policy provides for a uniform grading scale that is based on a one hundred point scale, as
9 follows: a grade of 93-100 is an "A", a grade of 85-92 is a "B", a grade of 75-84 is a "C", a
10 grade of 67-74 is a "D", and a grade of 0-66 is an "F"; and

11 WHEREAS, this uniform grading scale is familiar and generally understood by
12 students, parents, and the general public; however, some have expressed concern that many
13 people are confused by the one hundred fifty point accountability scale; and

14 WHEREAS, using a one hundred point scale, to which many have grown accustomed
15 through its widespread use for students' grades, for the performance score scale on which
16 school and district letter grades are based may lead to greater transparency and a clearer
17 understanding of how schools and districts are actually performing; and

18 WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
19 Education evaluate the feasibility of implementing a one hundred point scale for purposes
20 of the school and district accountability system in the effort to make school and district
21 performance scores and letter grades more easily understandable by students, parents, and
22 the general public.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
24 urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the
25 feasibility of implementing a one hundred point scale for performance score ranges used to
26 assign school and district letter grades through the school and district accountability system
27 and to submit a written report of findings and conclusions, including any recommendations
28 for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education and the Senate
29 Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2014 Regular
30 Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the
2 president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and to the state
3 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)]

Barrow

HCR No. 161

Requests that the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education study the feasibility of implementing a 100 point scale for performance score ranges used to assign school and district letter grades and submit a report of findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for legislation, to the House and Senate education committees at least 60 days before the 2014 R.S.