

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 178

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

STUDENT/ASSESSMENT: Requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study and consider exempting foreign exchange students from ACT requirements

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study and  
3 consider taking all actions necessary to exempt foreign exchange students from the  
4 statewide requirement that eleventh graders take the American College Test (ACT)  
5 and to submit a written report of study findings and conclusions, including any  
6 actions taken on the issue, to the House Committee on Education not later than sixty  
7 days prior to the beginning of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of  
8 Louisiana.

9 WHEREAS, the Constitution of Louisiana states that it is the goal of the public  
10 educational system to provide learning environments and experiences at all stages of human  
11 development that are humane, just, and designed to promote excellence in order that every  
12 individual may be afforded an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential; and

13 WHEREAS, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education policy requires  
14 that each eleventh grade student, with the exception of certain students with exceptionalities,  
15 take the ACT; and

16 WHEREAS, the policy provides for four indicators, each comprising twenty-five  
17 percent of a high school's School Performance Score; and

18 WHEREAS, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education rule requires  
19 foreign exchange students to take the appropriate assessment for their enrolled grade during  
20 the scheduled assessment period; and

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

5           WHEREAS, in order to fulfill the state's constitutional duty of affording every  
6 student an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential, it is imperative that a thorough  
7 study be conducted and any necessary actions be considered to exempt foreign exchange  
8 students from the requirement of taking the ACT in the eleventh grade.

9           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
10 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and  
11 Secondary Education to study and consider taking all actions necessary to exempt foreign  
12 exchange students from the statewide requirement that eleventh graders take the American  
13 College Test (ACT) and to submit a written report of study findings and conclusions,  
14 including any actions taken on the issue, to the House Committee on Education not later than  
15 sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study, the board shall consider  
17 and examine all applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations, including but not  
18 limited to applicable requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA),  
19 and determine the feasibility of amending the state's ESEA flexibility request.

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

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#### 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)]

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Hoffmann

HR No. 178

Requests the State BESE to study and consider taking all actions necessary to exempt foreign exchange students from the statewide requirement that 11th graders take the ACT and to report study findings and conclusions, including any actions taken on the issue, to the House Committee on Education prior to the 2014 R.S.