A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Workforce Commission to provide clear, consistent, and easily accessible explanations of unemployment benefits and potential ramifications.

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana was dealt a serious blow when it was struck by the unprecedented pandemic known as the coronavirus or COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has left a staggering economic impact on businesses and residents statewide; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the statewide shut down of non-essential businesses and operations, there has been an increase in the number of individuals who have filed for unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of unemployment benefits is to provide temporary financial assistance to a worker unemployed through no fault of his own; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Workforce Commission is the department charged with the administration of unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Workforce Commission has received funds through the federal CARES Act, Public Law 116-136 and has begun to disburse payments since April 13, 2020; and

WHEREAS, individuals and employers look to the Louisiana Workforce Commission for guidance regarding the administration of unemployment benefits; and

WHEREAS, employers who have suffered an economic blow as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are anxious to reopen businesses and operations; and

WHEREAS, with the reopening of businesses, there will be a need for employees to return to their jobs; and
WHEREAS, there has been concern about economic stability with plans to reopen the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, there is some uncertainty in regards to employees returning to work and those who may not return to work and will continue to receive unemployment benefits.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Workforce Commission to provide clear and consistent explanations of unemployment benefits and potential ramifications so the public may have a better understanding of how unemployment benefits are administered during the COVID-19 pandemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative authority for the request provided for in this Resolution shall terminate on August 1, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE