

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 81

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To establish a task force to study and make recommendations relative to projected workforce demands in the cannabis industry in Louisiana and to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than February 1, 2021.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana passed medical marijuana legislation in 2016 and gave authorization for two state higher educational institutions to grow, process, and provide medical cannabis; and

WHEREAS, recent studies show the therapeutic value of cannabis in treating a wide array of debilitating medical conditions, including relief of the neuropathic pain that often fails to respond to conventional treatments and reduced symptoms and even complete remission from Crohn's disease; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has passed the 2018 Farm Bill, which defines hemp as a cannabis plant that contains not more than three-tenths percent of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and authorizes the cultivation of hemp and commercial distribution of hemp-derived products; and

WHEREAS, the cannabis industry is thriving across the country as Louisiana and other states establish laws to authorize and regulate the industry; and

WHEREAS, since this is a growing, new industry there is a need to study the workforce demands and the skills necessary to supply the cannabis industry with a capable and compete workforce, including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, and other healthcare practitioners.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish a task force to study and make recommendations relative to projected workforce demands in the cannabis industry in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be comprised of the following members:

(1) Two representatives of Louisiana State University appointed by the president of the university.

(2) Two representatives of Southern University appointed by the president of the university.

(3) Two representatives of Baton Rouge Community College appointed by the chancellor of the college.

(4) One representative of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy appointed by the board.

(5) One physician appointed by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

(6) One representative of the Louisiana Workforce Commission appointed by the secretary of the commission.

(7) One member of the Louisiana House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

(8) One member of the Louisiana Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall hold its organizational meeting at the call of the commissioner of higher education, and at its organizational meeting, the task force shall elect a chair and such other officers as it deems necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may conduct such meetings at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall provide staff and administrative support for the task force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall report its findings and recommendations, including any suggestions for proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than February 1, 2021, at which time the task force shall cease to exist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana commissioner of higher education, the presidents of Louisiana State University and Southern University, the chancellor of Baton Rouge Community College, the secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the executive directors of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners and the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, the speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives, and the president of the Louisiana Senate.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE