

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 203

BY SENATOR WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To authorize the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, with the approval of the president of the Senate, to appoint a subcommittee of the standing committee for the purpose of studying and receiving testimony regarding issues affecting the school environment, including school violence.

WHEREAS, studies show that there is a direct correlation between the quality of the school environment and student academic achievement and success and every student deserves a school climate that is conducive to learning; and

WHEREAS, violence, or the perceived threat of violence, creates anxiety among students and can have a significant negative impact upon attendance, academic performance, student behavior, and ultimately, graduation rates; and

WHEREAS, state law and State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) policy require each public elementary and secondary school to adopt a student code of conduct to which all students must adhere and the school must enforce; and

WHEREAS, state law and BESE policy also require each public school to prepare and implement a school crisis management and response plan to address school safety and the incidence of violence at schools, on school buses, and at school-related activities and respond effectively to such incidents; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the state's public schools be safe havens for teaching and learning and that every student and teacher be provided a school environment in which they are free from fear of physical harm throughout each and every school day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize the chairman of the Senate Committee on Education, with the approval of the president of the Senate, to appoint a subcommittee of the standing committee for the purpose of studying and receiving testimony regarding issues affecting the school environment, including school violence.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE