

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 141

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROADWATER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the commissioner of higher education and the state superintendent of education to jointly report to the legislature, prior to February 1, 2017, on increasing availability and use of dual enrollment programs.

WHEREAS, dual enrollment programs allow students to receive high school and postsecondary education credit for a single course; and

WHEREAS, such courses have numerous benefits for students including helping them stay engaged in school, thereby increasing their chances of graduating from high school, and making the transition to higher education easier, which in turn enhances their chances of completing a college degree or other credential; and

WHEREAS, dual enrollment may also reduce the total cost of a postsecondary program of study, and finishing earlier can save money for both the student and the state; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana law provides for dual enrollment programs, but many believe that these programs have not been implemented to the maximum extent possible; and

WHEREAS, successful implementation of dual enrollment programs requires substantial cooperation and coordination among the secondary and postsecondary communities, which may be a factor that has limited implementation; and

WHEREAS, the legislature requires further information from program administrators on the successes of dual enrollment programs and on what changes need to be made for greater success and believes that a single report representing both the secondary and postsecondary perspectives on the opportunities and challenges regarding dual enrollment would be valuable.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the commissioner of higher education and the state superintendent of education to jointly report to the legislature, prior to February 1, 2017, containing recommendations on increasing availability and use of dual enrollment programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in preparing the report required by this Resolution, the commissioner and the superintendent shall jointly hold at least two public hearings to solicit input from citizens and from organizations with an interest in or information on the topic.

BE IF FURTHER RESOLVED, that the report shall include the following:

(1) An analysis of past and current participation in dual enrollment programs, which shall include numbers of participants and trends in those numbers and information on geographic distribution of participants, specific programs and courses of study pursued, outcomes in particular courses, and ultimate postsecondary success of participants.

(2) Identification of factors that hinder participation in dual enrollment programs including factors that prevent students from participating in the programs that do exist and factors that limit the availability of the programs.

(3) Specific suggestions for how participation in productive dual enrollment opportunities can be increased and an action plan for implementing these suggestions.

(4) Identification of any legislative action required for increasing dual enrollment opportunities and participation.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE