

1 workplace including strong communication and problem-solving, among other essential
2 skills; and

3 WHEREAS, Louisiana has one of the highest poverty rates in the country at more
4 than eighteen percent and many of those who live and raise children in poverty do not have
5 the work skills or credentials for employment in careers that provide a family-supporting
6 wage, and do not have the means or time to attend college. The state's unemployed and
7 underemployed citizens are disproportionately minorities; and

8 WHEREAS, for Louisiana's economy to grow, the state must ensure that citizens can
9 obtain skills and credentials that meet the needs of employers that provide living wages; and

10 WHEREAS, the state will not be able to meet its workforce needs, reduce poverty,
11 and improve the economic health of the state and its citizens without closing gaps for
12 minorities and impoverished communities; and

13 WHEREAS, work-based learning initiatives and programs that include wages,
14 college credit, and/or industry recognized credentials, and on-the-job training are a proven
15 method for closing the gaps between worker skills and employer needs to help develop state
16 and local economies. These "earn-and-learn" models provide a financially viable path for
17 students and workers to and through postsecondary education opportunities, and provide
18 opportunities for business to upskill and retrain workers; and

19 WHEREAS, experiential or work-based learning opportunities are an effective way
20 to connect underserved populations to family-supporting careers; and

21 WHEREAS, a statewide framework for work-based learning opportunities that is
22 driven by industry and supported by education and workforce development policy and
23 practice in high schools and postsecondary institutions will provide the foundation for
24 greater industry and education alignment to meet the workforce needs and economic goals
25 of the state.

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
27 create and establish the Work-Based Learning Task Force to study and evaluate existing
28 work-based learning programs, develop a strategy, and establish a framework that builds and
29 sustains industry engagement in valuable work-based learning activities, encourage robust
30 partnerships between employers and education providers, coordinate across state and local

1 agencies, increase alignment between workforce and education policies and funding streams,
2 target funding and incentives, and collect and evaluate data.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of all of the
4 following:

5 (1) The Commissioner of Higher Education, or his designee, who shall serve as
6 Chair.

7 (2) The Louisiana State Superintendent of Education, or his designee.

8 (3) The president of each of the four (4) public postsecondary management boards,
9 or their designees.

10 (4) The president of Louisiana Association of Independent Colleges & Universities,
11 or his designee.

12 (5) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents,
13 or his designee.

14 (6) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of School Boards, or his
15 designee.

16 (7) A current Louisiana high school student appointed by the State Superintendent
17 of Education.

18 (8) The president of Council of Student Body Presidents, or his designee.

19 (9) The executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, or his designee.

20 (10) The secretary of the Department of Economic Development, or his designee.

21 (11) The president of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, or his
22 designee.

23 (12) The president of the National Federation of Business and Industry, or his
24 designee.

25 (13) The president of the Louisiana American Federation of Labor & Congress of
26 Industrial Organizations, or his designee.

27 (14) The chair of the Senate Committee on Education, or his designee.

28 (15) The chair of the House Committee on Education, or his designee.

29 (16) Eight members representing the business or industry community to be appointed
30 by Department of Economic Development from nominations submitted by the Louisiana

1 Association of Chambers of Commerce Executives, the Committee of 100 for Economic
2 Development, Inc., the Regional Economic Development Organizations, and the Louisiana
3 Association of Business and Industry, half of whom must be currently engaged in work-
4 based learning activities.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a vacancy in task force membership shall be
6 filled in the manner of the original appointment.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall hold its organizational
8 meeting within ninety days after adjournment sine die of the 2019 Regular Session of the
9 Legislature and that at the organizational meeting the task force shall confirm the chairman,
10 elect a vice chairman, elect such other officers as may be necessary, and adopt rules for its
11 own procedures, which rules shall be subject to later amendment by the task force.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall determine a strategy and
13 framework for recommendation to the legislature on all matters relevant to the
14 implementation of work-based learning programs, which shall include but not be limited to
15 all of the following:

16 (1) A report that identifies and examines successful work-based learning programs
17 nationally and within the state, including pertinent background material, data, an inventory
18 of existing state and local programs and partnerships for work-based learning, and
19 recognized best practices that may serve as models for a statewide work-based learning
20 program in Louisiana.

21 (2) A policy agenda for the state's work-based learning initiative which shall include
22 at a minimum:

23 (a) A comprehensive review of statewide laws and policies with the greatest potential
24 impact on the successful creation and implementation of a statewide framework for valuable
25 work-based learning models. The framework shall include all of the following:

26 (i) Identification of a statewide and regional framework for collaboration between
27 high schools, postsecondary institutions, and industry that leverages existing programs,
28 partnerships, and funding.

29 (ii) An intermediary model for the coordination and implementation of regional and
30 statewide work-based learning efforts, common language defining valuable work-based

