

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 204

BY REPRESENTATIVE DOWNS

STUDENT/LOANS-SCHOLARSHIP: Requests the Bd. of Regents to study and report on certain issues relative to the high school core curriculum requirements for students to be eligible for a TOPS Opportunity, Performance, or Honors award

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Board of Regents, in consultation with certain others, to study the
3 provisions of enacted House Bill No. 1491 of the 2010 Regular Session, relative to
4 the high school core curriculum requirements for certain students to be eligible for
5 a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) Opportunity, Performance, or
6 Honors award, and determine if requiring a student to successfully complete at least
7 nineteen units of a specified curriculum beginning with the 2013-2014 school year
8 will have a disparate impact on students attending state-approved nonpublic schools;
9 to request that the board make recommendations as to how best to resolve any such
10 disparate impact, if any; to provide for a written report on study findings and
11 recommendations to be made to the House Committee on Education; and to provide
12 for related matters.

13 WHEREAS, the legislature has enacted House Bill No. 1491 of the 2010 Regular
14 Session relative to the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS); and

15 WHEREAS, this legislation provides, beginning with the 2013-2014 school year and
16 thereafter, that certain students must successfully complete at least nineteen units of a
17 specified high school core curriculum to be eligible for a TOPS Opportunity, Performance,
18 or Honors award; and

19 WHEREAS, it is not uncommon for a student who is attending a nonpublic high
20 school that is approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to have

1 to take for assorted purposes one or more courses not required of a student attending a public
2 high school.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Regents, in consultation
5 with the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission, the State Board of Elementary
6 and Secondary Education and the board's advisory Nonpublic School Commission, the
7 Taylor Foundation, Citizens for Educational Choice, and others as deemed appropriate by
8 the Board of Regents, to study the provisions of enacted House Bill No. 1491 of the 2010
9 Regular Session, relative to the high school core curriculum requirements for certain
10 students to be eligible for a TOPS Opportunity, Performance, or Honors award, and
11 determine if requiring a student to successfully complete at least nineteen units of the
12 specified curriculum beginning with the 2013-2014 school year will have a disparate impact
13 on students attending state-approved nonpublic schools.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall make
15 recommendations as to how best to resolve any such disparate impact, if any.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall report in writing on
17 study findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education by not later than
18 sixty days prior to the start of the 2011 Regular Session.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted
20 to the chairman of the Board of Regents and to the commissioner of higher education.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Downs

HR No. 204

Requests the Bd. of Regents (in consultation with the La. Student Financial Assistance Commission, the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education and the board's advisory Nonpublic School Commission, the Taylor Foundation, Citizens for Educational Choice, and others as deemed appropriate by the Bd. Regents) to study the provisions of enacted HB No. 1491 of the 2010 R.S., relative to the high school core curriculum requirements for certain students to be eligible for a Taylor Opportunity Programs for Students (TOPS) Opportunity, Performance, or Honors award, and determine if requiring a student to successfully complete at least 19 units of the specified curriculum beginning with the 2013-2014 school year will have a disparate impact on students attending state-approved nonpublic schools.

Provides that the Bd. of Regents shall make recommendations as to how best to resolve any such disparate impact, if any.

Also provides that the Bd. of Regents shall report in writing on study findings and recommendations to the House education committee prior to the start of the 2011 RS.