

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 30

BY REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN BADON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Board of Regents to study the provision of public postsecondary educational opportunities throughout the state, to establish the appropriate role, scope, and mission of each public postsecondary education institution, and to formulate a plan that will make optimal use of all available academic, fiscal, and physical resources, recognize the unique nature of each institution, and allow each institution's students to successfully and efficiently pursue their chosen academic path and to submit a written report of findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the state's various public postsecondary education institutions, through diligent, valiant, and tireless efforts, have made tremendous strides to develop and improve their facilities, their programs, and their enrollment; and

WHEREAS, although great progress has been made by all systems and institutions, there is much left to be done, and the state's ongoing budgetary crisis is not only impeding progress but is seriously threatening the progress made to date; and

WHEREAS, it is becoming increasingly apparent that the current levels of enrollment and funding and the quality and capacity of existing facilities are insufficient to successfully sustain the long-term viability of the state's public postsecondary education institutions; and

WHEREAS, it is logical, reasonable, and imperative that these institutions no longer be forced to compete individually for students and resources but rather that they be empowered to work within a cohesive and comprehensive framework that maximizes scarce resources in a manner that considers the unique nature of each institution and benefits each institution and the students and communities it exists to serve.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Regents to study the provision of public postsecondary educational opportunities throughout the state, to establish the appropriate role, scope, and mission of each public postsecondary education institution, and to formulate a plan that will make optimal use of all available academic, fiscal, and physical resources, recognize the unique nature of each institution, and allow each institution's students to successfully and efficiently pursue their chosen academic path.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study shall be based upon best practices for the development of a world class, integrated education delivery system.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall not allow the historic missions of the institutions and the existing relationships between the institutions to prejudice the conduct and conclusions of the study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall submit, in compliance with R.S. 24:771 and 772, a written report of its findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chairman of the Board of Regents and the commissioner of higher education.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE