## 2018 Regular Session

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 112

# BY REPRESENTATIVE NANCY LANDRY

## COLLEGES/COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL: Requests that the Louisiana Community and Technical College System develop a pilot scholarship program for certain adults

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, in
3	coordination with the Board of Regents and the Louisiana Office of Student
4	Financial Assistance, to develop a pilot program to provide public postsecondary
5	education scholarships to certain students.
6	WHEREAS, current data and occupational forecasts indicate that a majority of high-
7	demand, high-paying occupations will require more than a high school education; and
8	WHEREAS, half of Louisiana's working-age adults have a high school diploma or
9	less and lack the skills and education needed to fully participate in the economy; and
10	WHEREAS, every effort must be made to provide greater access to postsecondary
11	education to those adults in order to move them from the rolls of the underemployed or
12	unemployed to the rolls of a skilled workforce and to ensure that they are prepared to meet
13	the current and future workforce needs of the state and are capable of self-sufficiency, and
14	WHEREAS, current law provides for the TOPS-Tech Award, a merit-based
15	scholarship for recent high school graduates seeking degrees and credentials that are closely
16	aligned with the needs of business and industry; and
17	WHEREAS, a scholarship program for adults similar to TOPS-Tech may attract and
18	engage more of the working-age population in public postsecondary education; and
19	WHEREAS, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System has
20	demonstrated success in outreach to the business community through programs administered

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- through the Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Fund and to adults
   through the Work Ready-U program; and
- WHEREAS, further development of a well-educated, highly skilled, and productive
  workforce is paramount to the economic growth of this state.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 6 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Community and 7 Technical College System, in coordination with the Board of Regents and the Louisiana 8 Office of Student Financial Assistance, to develop a pilot program to provide public 9 postsecondary education scholarships for use in programs aligned with high-demand, high-10 paying occupations by Louisiana's working-age citizens who have earned an alternative high 11 school diploma and who have scored at least a seventeen on the ACT.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana shall not appropriate additional funds for the administration of the pilot program and that the program shall be administered using private contributions solicited and collected by Louisiana Community and Technical College System institutions and foundations or through the realignment of existing financial aid and scholarship programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Community and Technical
College System shall submit a written report of its findings regarding the development and
implementation of the pilot program, including any recommendations for related legislation,
to the House Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the
2020 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the commissioner of higher education, and the executive director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance.

#### 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)]

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Nancy Landry

Requests the La. Community and Technical College System, in coordination with the Bd. of Regents and the La. Office of Student Financial Assistance, to develop a pilot program to provide public postsecondary education scholarships for use in programs aligned with high-demand, high-paying occupations.