HLS 19RS-2974 ENGROSSED

2019 Regular Session

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**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 210** 

BY REPRESENTATIVE NANCY LANDRY

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

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 continue a pilot program to provide public postsecondary 5 education scholarships to certain adult students and to submit written reports of its 6 findings regarding the development and implementation of the program, including 7 any recommendations for related legislation, to the House Committee on Education 8 not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2020 Regular Session of the 9 Legislature and the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature. 10 WHEREAS, current data and occupational forecasts indicate that a majority of high-11 demand, high-paying occupations will require more than a high school education; and 12 WHEREAS, half of Louisiana's working-age adults have a high school diploma or 13 less and lack the skills and education needed to fully participate in the economy; and 14 WHEREAS, every effort must be made to provide greater access to postsecondary 15 education to those adults in order to move them from the rolls of the underemployed or 16 unemployed to the rolls of a skilled workforce and to ensure that they are prepared to meet 17 the current and future workforce needs of the state and are capable of self-sufficiency, and 18 WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 112 and Senate Resolution No. 113 of the 2018 19 Regular Session of the Legislature requested the Louisiana Community and Technical 20 College System to develop a pilot program to provide public postsecondary education 21 scholarships for use in programs aligned with high-demand, high-paying occupations by 22 Louisiana's working-age citizens who have earned an alternative high school diploma and 23 who have scored at least a seventeen on the ACT; and

1 WHEREAS, the scholarship program for adults did attract and engage more of the 2 working-age population in public postsecondary education; and 3 WHEREAS, the adults participating in the scholarship program have demonstrated 4 success with higher average rates of persistence and grade point averages than students who 5 graduated from high school and have received a TOPS-Tech award; and 6 WHEREAS, further development of this pilot scholarship program is necessary to 7 aid in the development of a well-educated, highly skilled, and productive workforce, which 8 is of paramount importance to the economic growth of this state. 9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 10 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Community and 11 Technical College System, in coordination with the Board of Regents and the Louisiana 12 Office of Student Financial Assistance, to further develop and expand the pilot program 13 created in response to the request of House Resolution No. 112 and Senate Resolution 14 No. 113 of the 2018 Regular Session of the Legislature to provide public postsecondary 15 education scholarships for use in programs aligned with high-demand, high-paying 16 occupations by Louisiana's working-age citizens who have earned an alternative high school 17 diploma. 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the scale of the expanded pilot scholarship 19 program administered by the Louisiana Community and Technical College System shall be 20 determined by the funds raised by the colleges or appropriated to them. 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Community and Technical 22 College System shall submit a written report of its findings regarding the development and 23 implementation of the pilot program, including any recommendations for related legislation, 24 to the House Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 25 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature and the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature. 26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 27 president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the commissioner of 28 higher education, and the executive director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial 29 Assistance.

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## **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)]

HR 210 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Nancy Landry

Requests that the La. Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), in coordination with the Bd. of Regents and the La. Office of Student Financial Assistance, further develop and expand a scholarship program for use in certain programs by working-age citizens and that LCTCS submit written reports of 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 60 days prior to the beginning of 2020 R.S and 2021 R.S.