

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 172

BY REPRESENTATIVE MAGEE

GOVERNOR: Urges and requests the governor to consider instituting a program to incentivize COVID-19 vaccine take-up modeled on the Ohio Vax-a-Million lottery program

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the governor to consider instituting in this state a program to incentivize
3 COVID-19 vaccine take-up which is modeled on the Vax-a-Million lottery program
4 of the State of Ohio.

5 WHEREAS, the ongoing global outbreak of respiratory disease caused by a novel
6 coronavirus and named "coronavirus disease 2019", abbreviated as "COVID-19", has been
7 officially recognized as a pandemic since March 11, 2020; and

8 WHEREAS, the number of deaths from COVID-19 surpassed five hundred thousand
9 in the United States in February of 2021 and eclipsed ten thousand in Louisiana in March
10 of 2021; and

11 WHEREAS, COVID-19 is now the leading cause of death in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, widespread vaccination against COVID-19 is a critically important
13 means of helping to end the pandemic; and

14 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health reports that in the first week of
15 June of this year, COVID-19 vaccines are available through providers in all sixty-four
16 Louisiana parishes and that, state-wide, one thousand four hundred sixty-four providers,
17 including national and independent pharmacies, public health agencies, hospitals, clinics,
18 and physicians' offices are administering the vaccine; and

19 WHEREAS, despite a strong start in COVID-19 vaccine take-up in January of this
20 year and extensive availability of the vaccine currently, Louisiana has experienced a marked

1 decline in the rate of people becoming newly vaccinated against COVID-19; as of June 2,
2 2021, at twenty nine and one tenth percent, Louisiana's per capita rate of COVID-19
3 vaccination ranks behind only Alabama's, Arkansas's, and Mississippi's among U.S. states;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, other states have initiated enterprising and engaging programs to boost
6 their COVID-19 vaccination rates; and

7 WHEREAS, notable among such programs is that of the state of Ohio, which, in May
8 of 2021, under the leadership of Governor Mike DeWine, launched a lottery system branded
9 as "Vax-a-Million" that offers chances for a one-million-dollar weekly prize and full college
10 scholarships to people who receive at least one COVID-19 vaccine dose and register to win.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
12 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request Governor John Bel Edwards to
13 consider instituting in this state a program to incentivize COVID-19 vaccine take-up which
14 is modeled on the Vax-a-Million lottery program of the state of Ohio.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
16 governor and to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health.

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 172 Original

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Urges and requests the governor to consider instituting in La. a program to incentivize COVID-19 vaccine take-up which is modeled on the Vax-a-Million lottery program of the state of Ohio.