SLS 25RS-431 ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATOR PRESSLY

WORKFORCE COMMISSION. Requests the Louisiana Workforce Commission to study changes to the Incumbent Worker Training Account and funds.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1 2 To urge and request the Louisiana Workforce Commission to study and recommend changes to the Incumbent Worker Training Account and funds to improve the delivery of 3 business workforce solutions, as required by Act 330 of the 2024 Regular Session 4 5 of the Legislature, and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House and Senate committees on labor and industrial 6 7 relations by February 1, 2026. 8 WHEREAS, businesses throughout Louisiana face significant challenges finding 9 workers to meet their business needs, while Louisiana has more open, posted positions than 10 unemployed workers seeking jobs; and 11 WHEREAS, Louisiana seeks to provide more responsive support to businesses across the state, to address their workforce shortages and meet their talent needs; and 12 13 WHEREAS, Louisiana has suffered from recent population out-migration, where 14 departing residents cite a lack of job opportunities as one of the main reasons for leaving the state; and 15 16 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature passed Act 330 (Senate Bill 293), during the 2024 Regular Session, charging the Louisiana Workforce Commission with the 17 18 responsibility of delivering business workforce solutions in coordination with Louisiana

Economic Development (LED), the Board of Regents, the Department of Education, and the

Louisiana Community and Technical College System; and

WHEREAS, the Incumbent Worker Training Account, established in 1998, has provided options for customized and small business employee training grants, but has not undergone substantial redesign despite evolving workforce needs and growing business demands; and

WHEREAS, further evaluation of the Incumbent Worker Training Program's performance would provide greater clarity and help inform future improvements; and

WHEREAS, other workforce initiatives, such as LED FastStart, utilize alternative models of customized training and may offer useful points of comparison when evaluating and redesigning Louisiana's Incumbent Worker Training Program; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 23:1553(G) directs that the program shall sunset on July 1, 2026, unless it is expressly renewed by the legislature, providing an important opportunity for Louisiana policymakers to reconsider the performance, program design, and outcomes over the next year before that deadline; and

WHEREAS, providing flexible, high-impact workforce solutions to existing businesses is essential for Louisiana's long-term economic development and competitiveness.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Workforce Commission to study the current and future workforce needs of Louisiana businesses and to evaluate the performance, impact, and design of the Incumbent Worker Training Program in relation to those needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study should be informed by input from a broad cross-section of stakeholders, including chambers of commerce, local and regional economic development organizations, labor representatives, business and industry leaders, nonprofit intermediaries, program administrators, and current and past users of the Incumbent Worker Training Program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall be conducted in consultation with the entities identified in Act No. 330 of the 2024 Regular Session, including the Workforce Investment Council, the Louisiana Economic Development Partnership Board, the Board of

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Regents, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and the Department of Education.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission shall submit a written report of findings and recommendations, including potential statutory, regulatory, or programmatic changes, to the House and Senate committees on labor and industrial relations by February 1, 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of Louisiana Economic Development, commissioner of the Board of Regents, president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, chair of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the state superintendent of education.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST 2025 Regular Session

Pressly

Requests the La. Workforce Commission to study and recommend changes to the Incumbent Worker Training Program.