

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 194

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

STUDENTS: Requests the Louisiana Department of Health and the state Department of Education to provide certain visual acuity screening data to researchers

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health and the state Department of
3 Education to provide de-identified visual acuity screening data collected annually in
4 Louisiana schools from 2018 through the present to qualified independent
5 researchers for the purpose of evaluating longitudinal trends.

6 WHEREAS, visual acuity screenings are conducted annually in Louisiana schools
7 as part of routine student health assessments; these screenings result in the collection of
8 objective data reflecting changes in student vision over time; and

9 WHEREAS, the period beginning in 2018 corresponds with significant changes in
10 educational practices, including increased reliance on digital devices for instruction; and

11 WHEREAS, a longitudinal analysis of visual acuity data may provide valuable
12 insight into trends affecting student health, learning outcomes, and overall well-being; and

13 WHEREAS, independent analysis of de-identified data is a recognized best practice
14 to ensure objectivity, transparency, and scientific integrity; and

15 WHEREAS, access to such data would assist policymakers, educators, health
16 professionals, and parents in making informed decisions related to student health and
17 educational environments.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health
20 and the state Department of Education to provide de-identified visual acuity screening data

1 collected annually in Louisiana schools from 2018 through the present to qualified
2 independent researchers for the purpose of evaluating longitudinal trends.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the data provided shall include, to the extent
4 available and in compliance with state and federal privacy laws, the following:

5 (1) Year of screening.

6 (2) Grade level or age range of students.

7 (3) Visual acuity measurements or screening outcomes.

8 (4) Aggregated demographic categories.

9 (5) Any standardized screening protocols used.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the data shall be made available to qualified
11 independent researchers, including academic institutions and public interest research
12 organizations, for the purpose of conducting longitudinal analyses of student visual acuity.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all data shared pursuant to this Resolution shall
14 be fully de-identified and provided in a manner consistent with the Family Educational
15 Rights and Privacy Act, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, and
16 applicable state privacy protections.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Health and the state
18 Department of Education are requested to cooperate in facilitating access to the data and to
19 identify any limitations or gaps in the data set that may affect interpretation.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the findings of any completed analyses or
21 studies conducted pursuant to this Resolution be summarized and reported to the legislature,
22 including any observed trends, limitations, and recommendations for further study or policy
23 consideration.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
25 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health and the state superintendent of education.

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 194 Original

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Freeman

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