

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 156

BY SENATOR BARTHELEMY

STUDENTS. Requests the Department of Education to study implementation and accountability implications of student nonenrollment determinations.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the state Department of Education to study implementation and  
3 accountability implications of student nonenrollment determinations.

4 WHEREAS, R.S. 17:10.1 provides for a school accountability system for public  
5 schools and school systems and requires the State Board of Elementary and Secondary  
6 Education (BESE) to develop and implement a uniform system to measure and report school  
7 and school district performance; and

8 WHEREAS, current law requires that public school systems be assigned performance  
9 scores based on multiple indicators, including student achievement, academic growth, and  
10 graduation rates, and uses those scores to classify schools with a letter grade; that schools  
11 are annually evaluated, and those identified as low-performing are subject to interventions  
12 and improvement requirements; and

13 WHEREAS, according to the state Department of Education, beginning in the 2025-  
14 2026 school year, schools and districts will be measured using a simple, easy-to-understand  
15 scorecard built around three expectations for every student: Grow: students should make  
16 meaningful academic progress every year; Achieve: students should reach proficiency in key  
17 subjects; and Thrive: students should graduate on time and be prepared for college, career,  
18 or service; this system replaces an outdated model that had become too complex, difficult

1 to explain, and disconnected from Louisiana's long-term goals for student readiness; and

2 WHEREAS, today there is no uniform and standardized process for traditional public  
3 school systems to determine and document when a student is nonenrolled due to  
4 incarceration or unknown whereabouts; and

5 WHEREAS, when a student is determined to be nonenrolled due to incarceration or  
6 unknown whereabouts, the student is counted as enrolled for purposes of state accountability  
7 systems as of the date of determination, which negatively affects the school and school  
8 district's performance; and

9 WHEREAS, since Louisiana has adopted a revised school accountability system that  
10 raises expectations for students, simplifies how school performance is measured, and makes  
11 it easier for families and the public to understand how schools are preparing students for life  
12 after graduation, it is only fitting that the state Department of Education study  
13 implementation and accountability implications of student nonenrollment determinations.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
15 does hereby request the state Department of Education study implementation and  
16 accountability implications of student nonenrollment determinations.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study shall include, at a minimum, the  
18 following:

19 (1) Establishment of a uniform and standardized process for traditional public school  
20 systems to determine and document when a student is nonenrolled due to incarceration or  
21 unknown whereabouts.

22 (2) A process comprised of documented, reasonable, and good-faith efforts to locate  
23 and verify the student's enrollment status, and to specify minimum documentation  
24 requirements, timelines, and verification procedures to ensure consistency and accuracy  
25 across school systems.

26 (3) Effects associated with counting a student determined to be nonenrolled for  
27 purposes of state accountability systems as of the date of determination on schools and  
28 school districts after a good-faith effort is made to locate and verify the student's enrollment  
29 status.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state Department of Education shall submit

