SLS 14RS-157 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2014

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 95

BY SENATOR HEITMEIER

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. Requests the Department of Education to issue a report as to the number of joint-use agreements in place throughout the state and include a plan to promote the use of such agreements.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Education to conduct a survey on any barriers that prevent schools and governing entities from entering into joint-use agreements and 3 issue a report with a plan to promote such agreements. 4 5 WHEREAS, joint-use agreements are formal contracts between local governing entities and school districts that allow for joint-use of properties and facilities; and 6 7 WHEREAS, examples of joint-use agreements include opening school basketball 8 courts for public use after school hours, allowing school sports teams to use city-owned 9 recreation centers, or letting an intramural team host games on school property; and WHEREAS, potential benefits of joint-use agreements for schools, governing 10 11 entities, community organizations, and neighborhood residents include increases in 12 opportunities to be physically active, cost-sharing of school or government property and 13 promotion of social cohesion and neighborhood engagement; and WHEREAS, during the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature, the legislature 14 15 enacted Act 351, which limited the liability of schools and governmental entities that enter 16 into joint use agreements; and WHEREAS, despite the passage of Act 351, a vast majority of schools still have not 17 18 utilized joint-use agreements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Education to conduct a survey on the number of joint-use agreements in place in the state and the barriers that prevent schools and governing entities from entering into joint-use agreements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall issue a report that includes

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a strategic plan to promote and facilitate joint-use agreements across the state to the Legislature and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education no later than February 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the state superintendent of education and the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

DIGEST

Heitmeier SCR No. 95

Requests the Department of Education (DOE) to conduct a survey on barriers that prevent schools and governing entities from entering into joint-use agreements.

Requires DOE to issue a report with recommendations to the legislature and BESE no later than February 1, 2015.