

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 170

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITNEY

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Workforce Commission, in consultation with the Department of Health and Hospitals, to develop a referral process for the rehabilitation of unemployment insurance applicants who were discharged from previous employment due to drug use.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the importance of ensuring that the citizens of our state are ready to work and live free of drug dependence; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the people of Louisiana that the population of our state be free of physical and mental impairments associated with drug dependence; and

WHEREAS, the legislature recognizes the importance of a safe and drug-free workforce; and

WHEREAS, drug abuse creates significant workplace safety and health hazards and can result in decreased productivity, more injuries on the job, and an increased cost to employers; and

WHEREAS, in all cases of employment separation, the Louisiana Workforce Commission requests the reason of separation for unemployment insurance applicants, which makes the agency aware of drug-related discharges; and

WHEREAS, the office of behavioral health within the Department of Health and Hospitals ensures care and support to improve quality of life for people with mental illness and addictive disorders; and

WHEREAS, cooperation between the Louisiana Workforce Commission and the Department of Health and Hospitals to refer persons in need to appropriate programs will maximize the resources of state government to create a safe and sober workforce; and

WHEREAS, upon successful rehabilitation, people with addictive disorders can reenter the workforce of Louisiana as productive citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Workforce Commission, in consultation with the Department of Health and Hospitals, to develop a referral process for the rehabilitation of unemployment insurance applicants who were discharged from previous employment due to drug use.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Workforce Commission and the Department of Health and Hospitals.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES