

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 231

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDWARDS

SCHOOLS/FINANCE-MFP: Requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to include increased per pupil funding as part of FY 2015-16 base per pupil funding and to maintain at least that combined amount for FY 2016-17 MFP

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to recognize
3 and include increased per pupil funding to parish and city school systems, as
4 provided in House Bill No. 1 of the 2015 Regular Session, as part of the 2015-2016
5 Fiscal Year base per pupil amount when developing and adopting a minimum
6 foundation program formula for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year and to maintain at least
7 that combined amount of per pupil funding for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year minimum
8 foundation program formula.

9 WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 13(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana requires the
10 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop and adopt, annually, a
11 formula which is to be used to determine the cost of a minimum foundation program of
12 education in all public elementary and secondary schools as well as to allocate equitably the
13 funds to parish and city school systems; and

14 WHEREAS, on March 6, 2015, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
15 Education adopted such a formula to determine the cost and allocation of funds for the 2015-
16 2016 Fiscal Year and on March 13, 2015, submitted it to the legislature; and

17 WHEREAS, such formula was timely submitted to the legislature, and an instrument
18 providing for legislative approval of the formula was introduced for consideration, House
19 Concurrent Resolution No. 18; and

1 WHEREAS, House Concurrent Resolution No. 18 passed the House but was deferred
2 by the Senate Committee on Education on June 4, 2015; and

3 WHEREAS, the state constitution provides that if the legislature does not approve
4 the recommendation of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the
5 minimum foundation program formula last approved remains in effect; and

6 WHEREAS, the last valid minimum foundation program formula was approved in
7 Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 55 of the 2014 Regular Session; and

8 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that increasing the base per pupil amount of
9 funding for public schools by one and three hundred seventy-five thousandths percent
10 (1.375%) would raise that amount from \$3,961 to \$4,015 per student, generating money to
11 partially cover inflationary increases in expenditures and critical education initiatives; and

12 WHEREAS, the base per pupil amount of funding in the minimum foundation
13 program may be adjusted only through legislative approval of a formula adopted by the State
14 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education that provides for such an adjustment; and

15 WHEREAS, in order to provide for an increase in the base per pupil amount of
16 funding in the minimum foundation program, the legislature intends to amend House Bill
17 No. 1 of the 2015 Regular Session to provide for such an increase outside of the minimum
18 foundation program formula by directing the state Department of Education to allocate such
19 funds in the same manner in which they would have been allocated pursuant to the minimum
20 foundation program formula; and

21 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the legislature that this increase in the per pupil
22 amount, although provided for outside of the minimum foundation program formula for the
23 2015-2016 Fiscal Year, be recognized and included by the State Board of Elementary and
24 Secondary Education as a minimum base per pupil amount in future years.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
26 urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to recognize and
27 include the increased base per pupil amount in funding to parish and city school systems, as
28 provided in House Bill No. 1 of the 2015 Regular Session, as part of the 2015-2016 Fiscal
29 Year base per pupil amount when developing and adopting a minimum foundation program
30 formula for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana urges and requests
2 the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to maintain at least this combined
3 base per pupil amount for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year minimum foundation program formula.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
5 president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, state superintendent
6 of education, commissioner of administration, and governor.

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)]

HCR 231 Original

2015 Regular Session

Edwards

Requests that the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education recognize and include increased per pupil funding to parish and city school systems, as appropriated in HB 1 of the 2015 R.S., as part of FY 2015-2016 base per pupil funding when developing and adopting a MFP formula for FY 2016-2017 and to maintain at least this combined per pupil amount for FY 2016-2017 MFP formula.