HLS 17RS-716 ORIGINAL

2017 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 89

BY REPRESENTATIVE STOKES

HIGHER EDUCATION: Requests that the Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System study jointly the possibility of revising the classification and admission standards of the University of New Orleans

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors for the University
3	of Louisiana System to study jointly the possibility of revising the classification and
4	admission standards of the University of New Orleans and to submit a report of their
5	findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate
6	Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2018
7	Regular Session of the Legislature.
8	WHEREAS, minimum admission standards for each state university vary according
9	to its classification by the Board of Regents as a flagship, statewide, or regional university;
10	and
11	WHEREAS, as the state's flagship university, Louisiana State University has the
12	highest admission standards, followed by the statewide universities, which are the University
13	of New Orleans, Louisiana Tech University, and the University of Louisiana at Lafayette;
14	all other four-year universities are designated as regional universities, and their admission
15	standards are lower than those for the three statewide universities; and
16	WHEREAS, in addition to a specified high school core curriculum, a student must
17	attain an overall minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 to qualify for admission to any
18	public university; and
19	WHEREAS, beyond these requirements, a student must also attain either a minimum
20	composite ACT score or a minimum GPA on core high school courses, and the baselines on

1 the score and GPA differ based on the university's classification; for admission to the 2 flagship university, a student must have a minimum GPA on the core courses of 3.0 or a 3 minimum ACT score of 25; for admission to a statewide university, a student must have a 4 minimum GPA on the core courses of 2.5 or a minimum ACT score of 23; and for admission 5 to a regional university, a student must have a minimum GPA on the core courses of 2.0 or 6 a minimum ACT score of 20; and 7 WHEREAS, according to the Master Plan for Public Postsecondary Education in 8 Louisiana: 2011, the University of New Orleans (UNO) is a comprehensive university with 9 a mission to educate undergraduate and graduate students in a variety of arts, sciences, and 10 professional programs and to conduct research in these fields; and 11 WHEREAS, UNO attracted nearly fifty million dollars in extramural research and 12 training awards in Fiscal Year 2016 and is classified by the Carnegie Classification of 13 Institutions of Higher Education as a doctoral research university with higher research, one 14 of only two Louisiana universities with this classification, which is the second highest 15 Carnegie status that can be achieved; and 16 WHEREAS, under the current Board of Regents classification system and associated 17 admission standards, there are those who question whether UNO is able to properly fulfill 18 its mission for the New Orleans Metropolitan Statistical Area, which had a 2016 population 19 of approximately one million two hundred fifty thousand persons and an average ACT score 20 of 19.7 for the 2015-2016 school year, and who believe that a new classification of urban 21 research institution is necessary to provide sufficient opportunities to conduct applied 22 research while serving both regional and state citizens electing to pursue education and 23 training at UNO, the city's only public research institution. 24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 25 urge and request the Board of Regents and the Board of Supervisors for the University of 26 Louisiana System to study jointly the possibility of revising the classification and admission 27 standards of the University of New Orleans and to submit a report of their findings and 28 recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on 29 Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2018 Regular Session of the 30 Legislature.

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- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
- 2 to the chairman of the Board of Regents, the commissioner of higher education, the chairman
- 3 of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, the president of the
- 4 University of Louisiana System, and the president of the University of New Orleans.

## **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 89 Original

2017 Regular Session

Stokes

Requests that the Bd. of Regents and the Bd. of Supervisors for the Univ. of La. System study jointly the possibility of revising the classification and admission standards of the Univ. of New Orleans and submit a report of findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than 60 days prior to the 2018 R.S.