

2019 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 81

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

POSTSECONDARY ED. Requests the Board of Regents to create the Postsecondary Education Agriculture Technology Study Commission.

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Board of Regents to create the "Postsecondary Education Agriculture Technology Study Commission".

WHEREAS, the agriculture and forestry industry contributes an estimated ten billion dollars annually to the economy of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the agricultural industry is dependent upon highly specialized training and certifications to ensure the safe and reliable performance of agricultural machinery and equipment needed to harvest and prepare agricultural products for market and thus drive the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance and repair of agricultural machinery and equipment requires specialized training and certifications to ensure the safe and reliable performance of the equipment and to comply with manufacturer warranty repair requirements; and

WHEREAS, technological improvements in precision agriculture and land grading require additional training for producers as a means to improve production and the ability to compete at the national level; and

WHEREAS, our postsecondary education institutions are key partners in the training of citizens to fill equipment maintenance and repair jobs and to create innovations and opportunities for growth within this industry sector; and

1 WHEREAS, our postsecondary education institutions have industry partnerships that
2 should be leveraged to ensure that training opportunities are aligned with industry needs,
3 technical specifications, and emerging technologies.

4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
5 urge and request the Board of Regents to create the "Postsecondary Education Agriculture
6 Technology Study Commission" to be composed of fifteen members as follows:

7 (1) The president of the University of Louisiana System or his designee.

8 (2) The Louisiana State University vice president for agriculture or his designee.

9 (3) The chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension
10 Center or his designee.

11 (4) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System or his
12 designee.

13 (5) The president of Nicholls State University or his designee.

14 (6) The chancellor of Fletcher Technical Community College or his designee.

15 (7) Four persons appointed by the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, representing
16 the major agriculture commodity groups.

17 (8) The president of Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation or his designee.

18 (9) Two persons appointed by the Deep Southern Equipment Dealers Association.

19 (10) The state director of United States Department of Agriculture Rural
20 Development in Louisiana or his designee.

21 (11) The commissioner of higher education or his designee.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commissioner of higher education shall
23 convene the commission for an organizational meeting not later than August 15, 2019. The
24 commission shall elect a chairman and other officers as deemed necessary.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the membership shall constitute
26 a quorum and any official action taken by the commission shall require an affirmative vote
27 of a majority of the quorum present and voting.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the study commission shall
29 serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for expenses by the respective
30 appointing organization.

