

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To establish a task force to study and make recommendations relative to projected

3 workforce demands in the cannabis industry in Louisiana and to report its findings

4 and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than January 13, 2020.

5 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana passed medical marijuana legislation in

6 2016 and gave authorization for two state higher educational institutions to grow, process,

7 and provide medical cannabis; and

8 WHEREAS, recent studies show the therapeutic value of cannabis in treating a wide

9 array of debilitating medical conditions, including relief of the neuropathic pain that often

10 fails to respond to conventional treatments and reduced symptoms and even complete

11 remission from Crohn's disease; and

12 WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has passed the 2018 Farm Bill, which

13 defines hemp as a cannabis plant that contains not more than 0.3 percent of

14 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) and authorizes the cultivation of hemp and commercial

15 distribution of hemp-derived products; and

16 WHEREAS, the cannabis industry is thriving across the country as Louisiana and

17 other states establish laws to authorize and regulate the industry; and

18 WHEREAS, since this is a growing, new industry there is a need to study the

19 workforce demands and the skills necessary to supply the cannabis industry with a capable

20 and compete workforce, including physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, and other

21 healthcare practitioners.

1           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
2       establish a task force to study and make recommendations relative to projected workforce  
3       demands in the cannabis industry in Louisiana.

4           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be comprised of the  
5       following members:

6           (1) Two representatives of Louisiana State University appointed by the president of  
7       the university.

8           (2) Two representatives of Southern University appointed by the president of the  
9       university.

10          (3) Two representatives of Baton Rouge Community College appointed by the  
11       chancellor of the college.

12          (4) One representative of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy appointed by the board.

13          (5) One physician appointed by the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

14          (6) One representative of the Louisiana Workforce Commission appointed by the  
15       secretary of the commission.

16          (7) One member of the Louisiana House of Representatives appointed by the speaker  
17       of the House of Representatives.

18          (8) One member of the Louisiana Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.

19          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall hold its organizational  
20       meeting at the call of the commissioner of higher education, and at its organizational  
21       meeting, the task force shall elect a chair and such other officers as it deems necessary.

22          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may conduct such meetings at  
23       such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and  
24       effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this  
25       resolution.

26          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall provide staff and  
27       administrative support for the task force.

28          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall report its findings and  
29       recommendations, including any suggestions for proposed legislation, to the legislature no  
30       later than January 13, 2020, at which time the task force shall cease to exist.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
2 Louisiana commissioner of higher education, the presidents of Louisiana State University  
3 and Southern University, the chancellor of Baton Rouge Community College, the secretary  
4 of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the executive directors of the Louisiana State  
5 Board of Medical Examiners and the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy, the speaker of the  
6 Louisiana House of Representatives, and the president of the Louisiana Senate.

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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)]

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Marcelle

Establishes a task force to study and make recommendations relative to projected workforce demands in the cannabis industry in La., which shall report its findings and recommendations, including any suggestions for proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than Jan. 13, 2020.