

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY REPRESENTATIVES MCKNIGHT AND GAROFALO

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the state Department of Education, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, and the Board of Regents, in consultation with the Louisiana School Boards Association, to jointly prepare and submit a report to the House Committee on Education not later than December 31, 2020, relative to the status of data sharing agreements and related efforts underway to obtain and analyze data needed for evaluation of the Jump Start program.

WHEREAS, in 2014, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) established the Jump Start program to support high school students in earning industry-based certifications and credentials aligned with high-growth, high-wage job sectors as approved by Louisiana's Workforce Investment Council; and

WHEREAS, Jump Start training pathways and related programming prepare students to successfully transition to the workplace while also enabling them to continue their postsecondary training and education and career development; and

WHEREAS, BESE currently recognizes regional/emerging, basic, and advanced Jump Start training pathways in eleven key industry sectors, including agriculture, food, and natural resources; architecture and construction; arts, audiovisual technology, and communication; business management and administration; health sciences; hospitality and tourism; human services; information technology; law, public safety, corrections, and security; manufacturing; and transportation, distribution, and logistics; and

WHEREAS, BESE and the legislature have made significant financial investments in the Jump Start program through the Minimum Foundation Program, including the

Supplemental Course Allocation, Career Development Funds, and weighted funding for career and technical education courses; and

WHEREAS, program evaluation that includes careful analysis of outcome data is essential in determining whether public policies are achieving their intended goals and objectives; and

WHEREAS, evaluation and continuous improvement of the Jump Start program requires knowledge of whether or not students have been able to secure employment in the field in which they trained or have continued to pursue advanced training in the same industry; and

WHEREAS, this information is not available without data sharing agreements between Louisiana's local education agencies and the state Department of Education, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, and the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, representatives from the state Department of Education, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, and the Louisiana School Boards Association testified during the House Committee on Education meeting held May 13, 2020, that such agreements can and will be pursued in a cooperative manner in order to perform the analysis necessary for evaluation of the Jump Start program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the state Department of Education, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, and the Board of Regents, in consultation with the Louisiana School Boards Association, to jointly prepare and submit a report to the House Committee on Education not later than December 31, 2020, relative to the status of data sharing agreements and related efforts underway to obtain and analyze data needed for evaluation of the Jump Start program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such data shall include, at minimum, the following relative to Jump Start graduates and the industry-based certifications or credentials earned through the Jump Start program: which specific industry-based certifications and credentials are being earned; whether or not the students enter a public postsecondary education institution pursuing a degree, certification, or credential related to such certifications or credentials; and whether or not they enter the workforce in an occupation related to such certifications or credentials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such report should outline any legal or operational challenges that may require legislative remedies to obtain and analyze the data needed to fully evaluate the effectiveness of the Jump Start program and any recommendations to address such challenges.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the state superintendent of education, the secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the commissioner of higher education, and the executive director of the Louisiana School Boards Association.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES