

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 52

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHEXNAYDER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges and the Board of Regents to study and make recommendations relative to any academic, operational, structural, or technological changes that should be considered for the institutions of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System in response to COVID-19 and to submit to the speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives and the House Committee on Education an initial written report by June 2, 2020, and final written report by not later than 60 days prior to the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, COVID-19 has dramatically altered the ways that the people of Louisiana work and learn; and

WHEREAS, the impact of COVID-19 on the state, national, and global economy has been significant, will continue for some time, and will require creative strategies to ensure that Louisiana continues to meet the needs of students and employers through the delivery of educational services; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's community and technical colleges are faced with a landscape that has shifted dramatically in terms of educational delivery, funding, and market demands; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the state to move decisively and strategically in order to ensure that Louisiana is a leader in the development of talent that will drive the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, the ability of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) to succeed in fulfilling its mission to rapidly train the workforce of today and

prepare students for transferring to state universities is more important than ever due to the need to rapidly stimulate the state's economy; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing need for the provision of online education, which will require strategic investments and creative strategies to ensure that rural areas both increase and maintain opportunities for rural students to access this education; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, as the LCTCS management board, and the Board of Regents, as the coordinating body for postsecondary education, are best positioned to evaluate and make recommendations relative to how LCTCS institutions can continue to effectively fulfill their mission in a landscape significantly altered by COVID-19.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges and the Board of Regents to study and make recommendations relative to any academic, operational, structural, or technological changes that should be considered for the institutions of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System in response to COVID-19.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting this study, the boards shall consider how to minimize administrative costs while broadening access to education provided by LCTCS institutions and not closing any LCTCS campuses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any monetary savings derived from the implementation of recommendations resulting from this study shall be used to continue fulfillment of the LCTCS mission statewide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the two boards shall either separately or jointly submit a written report of findings, including any recommendations for changes in policy or state law relative to the issues studied, to the speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives and the House Committee on Education; an initial report shall be submitted not later than June 2, 2020, and a final report shall be submitted not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, the chairman of the Board of Regents, and the commissioner of higher education.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES