

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROMERO

SCHOOLS/FINANCE-MFP: Requests the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum Foundation Program formula in order to ensure adequate funding for school systems affected by Hurricane Laura

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to meet to
3 discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum Foundation Program formula to ensure
4 adequate funding for school systems affected by the displacement of students due to
5 Hurricane Laura, to take into account the financial needs of systems that have lost
6 students and systems that have gained students due to the hurricane, and, if
7 adjustments are necessary, to adopt a revised formula and submit it to the legislature
8 while the legislature is convened for the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session and has
9 the opportunity to consider the revised formula for approval.

10 WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 13(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana requires the
11 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to develop and adopt annually
12 a formula which shall be used to determine the cost of a minimum foundation program
13 (MFP) of education in all public elementary and secondary schools as well as to allocate
14 equitably the funds to parish and city school systems; and

15 WHEREAS, the constitution requires the legislature to fully fund the current cost to
16 the state of the MFP as determined by applying the legislatively approved formula; and

17 WHEREAS, Hurricane Laura, which made landfall in August of 2020, drastically
18 disrupted elementary and secondary education services in multiple parishes; and

19 WHEREAS, unprecedented and widespread damage to homes and school facilities
20 has resulted in the closure of schools and the displacement of thousands of families; and

1 WHEREAS, it is critical that adequate funding be provided both to parishes
2 experiencing decreased enrollment due to the displacement of students and those whose
3 enrollment has increased due to the intake of displaced students.

4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
5 urge and request the BESE to meet to discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum
6 Foundation Program formula in order to ensure adequate funding for school systems affected
7 by the displacement of students resulting from Hurricane Laura.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature does hereby urge and request
9 BESE to take into account the financial needs of systems that have lost students and systems
10 that have gained students due to the hurricane.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature does hereby urge and request
12 BESE, if adjustments are necessary, to adopt a revised formula and submit it to the
13 legislature while the legislature is convened for the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session and
14 has the opportunity to consider the revised formula for approval.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
16 to the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and to the state
17 superintendent of education.

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 17 Engrossed

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

Romero

Requests the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to do the following:

- (1) Meet to discuss possible adjustments to the Minimum Foundation Program formula in order to ensure adequate funding for school systems affected by the displacement of students resulting from Hurricane Laura.
- (2) Take into account the financial needs of systems that have lost students and systems that have gained students due to the hurricane.
- (3) If adjustments are necessary, adopt a revised formula and submit it to the legislature while the legislature is convened for the 2020 2nd E.S. and has the opportunity to consider the revised formula for approval.