HLS 21RS-553 ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

STUDENTS: Requests the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a plan for providing school literacy coaches for students in kindergarten through second grade in elementary schools identified as needing improvement

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to
3	develop a plan to provide school literacy coaches in all elementary schools identified
4	as needing improvement no later than the start of the 2022-2023 school year.
5	WHEREAS, House Resolution No. 222 and Senate Resolution No. 182, both of the
6	2019 Regular Session of the Legislature, requested the state Department of Education
7	establish the Louisiana Early Literacy Commission to study and make recommendations to
8	develop and implement an aligned system to provide effective evidence-based reading
9	instruction for children from birth through third grade; and
10	WHEREAS, the commission was co-chaired by the state superintendent of education
11	and a designee from the Louisiana Board of Regents; and
12	WHEREAS, the commission met numerous times and released a report in January
13	2020 outlining policy, program, and funding recommendations intended to support educators
14	and children relative to early literacy; the recommendations included instructional and
15	intervention materials and professional development for teachers; and
16	WHEREAS, in response to the commission's recommendations, the legislature
17	appropriated two million dollars to develop a K - 2 literacy coaching model; define the scope
18	of educator training; and to develop metrics for program implementation, standards for data
19	analysis, and coaching schedules; and

1	WHEREAS, the commission published an addendum to the report one year later,
2	which outlined a need for fifteen million dollars annually to increase the number of literacy
3	coordinators; support the creation of local literacy plans; and provide professional
4	development in the foundations of reading, high quality teacher-student interactions, and
5	literacy coaching; and
6	WHEREAS, the state Department of Education has set a goal of having a school-
7	level literacy coach in every public school identified as needing improvement by the 2024-
8	2025 school year; and
9	WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and natural disasters in 2020 and 2021 have
10	exacerbated gaps in early literacy in Louisiana, thereby creating an even more urgent need
11	to address early literacy across the state, while leveraging all sources of available funding.
12	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
13	urge and request BESE to develop a plan for full implementation of school literacy coaches
14	for students in kindergarten through second grade.
15	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in developing the plan, BESE shall consult with
16	department staff, members of the Louisiana Early Literacy Commission, and the
17	commissioner of administration; the plan shall provide for full implementation for students
18	in kindergarten through the second grade in all elementary schools identified as needing
19	improvement not later than the 2022-2023 school year, and in doing so, leverage all
20	available sources of federal and state funds.
21	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BESE shall submit the plan to the governor, the
22	commissioner of administration, the legislature, and the Louisiana Early Literacy
23	Commission not later than September 30, 2021.
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that BESE shall provide a written report regarding
25	implementation, progress, and results to the governor, the legislature, and the Louisiana
26	Early Literacy Commission at least twice between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2025.

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ORIGINAL
HCR NO. 11

DIGEST

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HCR 11 Original

2021 Regular Session

Hughes

Requests the State Bd. of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a plan for providing school literacy coaches for certain students and report results to the governor, the commissioner of administration, and the legislature twice before the end of 2025.