HLS 21RS-872 ENGROSSED

2021 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

JUVENILES: Requests the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission to study local education agency budgets

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission to use its
3	authority to oversee a study of local education agency budgets to analyze and make
4	available to the public information about how school districts are spending local,
5	state, and federal education funds, in particular, how these funds are spent on
6	measures that support students and their learning compared to measures that punish
7	and criminalize students.
8	WHEREAS, data and information about local education agency budgets is not
9	consistently or readily available to communities across Louisiana, and communities should
10	understand and be engaged in how public funds are spent in their schools; and
11	WHEREAS, it is critical that public funds are spent on measures that are found to
12	support students, like counselors, school nurses, and other health and mental health
13	professionals, instead of measures that are found to harm and criminalize students, like
14	increased school resource officer and law enforcement presence; and
15	WHEREAS, R.S. 46:2755 provides the commission the authority to conduct any
16	study it finds necessary to effect its purpose; and
17	WHEREAS, R.S. 46:2754 provides the commission the authority to request research
18	and assistance from private research agencies, consulting groups, individuals, and
19	organizations, universities, and others, and may use such research and assistance to conduct
20	this study; and

1	WHEREAS, the commission has among its power and duties monitoring and
2	evaluating juvenile justice and making recommendations for juvenile justice, and assessing
3	the roles and interaction of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies and entities
4	in combating juvenile delinquency to make recommendations for improving their
5	effectiveness; and
6	WHEREAS, ensuring students can remain in their classrooms and learning, rather
7	than facing referrals to law enforcement, arrest, or justice system involvement is the most
8	effective way to combat juvenile delinquency; and
9	WHEREAS, students, educators, administrators, schools, and communities will all
10	be better served by investing public funds in the best practices that contribute to positive,
11	safe, and healthy learning environments that support students; and
12	WHEREAS, too often Louisiana schools appear to prioritize spending funds on law
13	enforcement and school resource officers rather than school counselors, nurses, and other
14	health and mental health professionals, and school communities should have better access
15	to and far greater input on these budgetary decisions.
16	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
17	urge and request the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission to oversee
18	a study of local education agency budgets to analyze and make available to the public
19	information about how school districts are spending local, state, and federal education funds,
20	in particular, how these funds are spent on measures that support students and their learning
21	compared to measures that punish and criminalize students.
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall submit a publicly
23	available, written report containing its findings and recommendations to the legislature and
24	governor, pursuant to R.S. 46:2756, not later than March 1, 2022.
25	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26	chair of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission.

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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)]

HCR 15 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Hughes

Requests the Juvenile Justice Reform Act Implementation Commission to study local education agency budgets relative to the funding of student support measures and report to the legislature no later than March 1, 2022.