

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

A CONCURRENT STUDY REQUEST

WHEREAS, it should be a priority of our elementary and secondary schools to teach and help students to understand where the food on their tables comes from, the jobs available in the agriculture industry, and to generally celebrate Louisiana agriculture; and

1 WHEREAS, one of the best educational methods of teaching students is allowing
2 them to have real-world, tangible experiences to better understand the products and lessons
3 they are learning; and

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Farm to School Program was created by Act No. 404 of
5 the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature to allow schools to partner with local producers
6 and use public funds to purchase products to "increase student access to healthy, locally
7 grown fruits, vegetables, and other agricultural products" and to "increase the use of locally
8 grown or raised agricultural products in school nutrition programs"; and

9 WHEREAS, there are community and organizational programs such as Farm
10 Bureau's "Ag in the Classroom", local FFA chapters, and 4-H Club members, which stand
11 ready to assist and support the agricultural literacy needs of school teachers providing
12 lessons through a Louisiana school agricultural food commodities day program.

13 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana requests the House Committee on
14 Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development, the House Committee on
15 Education, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture and Rural
16 Development, and the Senate Committee on Education to meet and to function as a joint
17 committee to study the feasibility of creating a Louisiana agricultural food commodities day
18 in public schools by evaluating the effective utilization of the Louisiana Farm to School
19 Program as found in R.S. 17:195.1, any and all local, state and federal laws and regulations
20 relative to procuring food for student meals, existing school curriculum and education
21 resources used for the purpose of teaching agricultural literacy lessons in the classroom, and
22 any associated costs and financial impact to state agencies and state general fund.

23 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana requests the chairmen of the House
24 Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development, the House
25 Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture and
26 Rural Development, and the Senate Committee on Education to appoint three members each
27 from their respective committees to participate in the study.

28 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana further requests the members of the joint
29 committee to elect its chair and vice chair at its initial meeting to be held no later than
30 September 30, 2021.

1 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana further requests the joint committee to
2 consider soliciting information and suggestions from the following agencies and
3 organizations:

- 4 (1) The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry.
5 (2) The Louisiana Department of Education.
6 (3) The Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.
7 (4) The agricultural centers of Louisiana State University and Southern University
8 and A&M College.
9 (5) The Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation.
10 (6) The Louisiana FFA Association.
11 (7) Louisiana 4-H.
12 (8) The Louisiana legislative fiscal office.

13 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana requests that the joint committee submit
14 a report of its findings to the legislature sixty days prior to the convening of the 2022
15 Regular Session.

16 THEREFORE, the Legislature of Louisiana further requests that a copy of this study
17 request be sent to the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, the Louisiana
18 Department of Education, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the
19 agricultural centers of Louisiana State University and Southern University and A&M
20 College, the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, the Louisiana FFA Association, Louisiana
21 4-H, and the Louisiana legislative fiscal office.

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)]

HCSR 2 Original

2021 Regular Session

Turner

Requests the chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development, the House Committee on Education, the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture and Rural Development, and the Senate Committee on Education to appoint three members each from their respective committees to meet and to function as a joint committee to study the feasibility of creating a La. agricultural food commodities day in public schools by evaluating the effective utilization of the La. Farm to School Program as found in existing law, any and all local, state and federal laws and regulations relative to procuring food for student meals, existing school curriculum and education resources used for the purpose of teaching agricultural literacy lessons in the

classroom, and any associated costs and financial impact to state agencies and the state general fund; and to report the findings of the joint committee to the legislature 60 days prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular Session.