

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 212

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

HIGHER EDUCATION: Expresses support for the development of the Community College Resilience Center pilot project at L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express support for the Board of Regents' effort, in conjunction with the Louisiana
3 Community and Technical College System and L.E. Fletcher Technical Community
4 College, to develop the Community College Resilience Center pilot project at
5 Fletcher's campuses to better serve local communities in the aftermath of disasters
6 and develop more resilient campus locations for the future.

7 WHEREAS, Hurricane Ida made landfall as a Category 4 hurricane on August 29,
8 2021, and caused catastrophic damage to the Southeastern quadrant of our state; in the
9 aftermath, many citizens were without power, internet, and other basic necessities for
10 extended periods; and

11 WHEREAS, in response to hurricane impacts, several local businesses opened to
12 assist their communities with access to groceries, hot meals, internet, and other essential
13 services; and

14 WHEREAS, in the months following Hurricane Ida, impacted citizens, communities,
15 and businesses have been slow to recover from the storm's effects; and

16 WHEREAS, it is necessary for leaders at all levels to recognize college campuses as
17 community anchors that can improve a community's resilience and expedite recovery after
18 both manmade and natural disasters; and

19 WHEREAS, it is necessary for state and local emergency preparedness stakeholders
20 to convene around the opportunity to integrate colleges, their infrastructure and assets, and
21 their human capital into preparedness and recovery plans; and

1 WHEREAS, it is important to incorporate resilient building practices into college
2 campus master plans, retrofitting existing campus infrastructure for greater resilience and
3 allocating funding to maintain and develop campus resilience in the future; and

4 WHEREAS, it is necessary to designate recovery liaisons for postsecondary
5 education within the state's emergency preparedness and postsecondary education agencies
6 to convene all necessary partners and resources to pilot and expand this effort across
7 Louisiana's college campuses; and

8 WHEREAS, it is critical for postsecondary education entities to seek continued
9 guidance from state and local emergency personnel regarding ways to continually improve
10 their involvement in disaster recovery across the state; and

11 WHEREAS, it is recognized that campus recovery is linked to strong community
12 recovery.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
14 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express support for the development of the Community
15 College Resilience Center pilot project at L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College in
16 order to map the processes, partnerships, resources, barriers, and opportunities involved in
17 fully integrating postsecondary education institutions into community disaster recovery.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives will work with the
19 Board of Regents, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and L.E.
20 Fletcher Technical Community College to fully develop and test the Resilience Center pilot
21 and plan for future expansion to additional institutions.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby urge
23 and request that the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness
24 work with the Board of Regents, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System,
25 and L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College to develop and implement the Resilience
26 Center pilot and assist in identifying relevant stakeholders for participation in the project.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted the
28 director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the
29 commissioner of higher education, the president of the Louisiana Community and Technical
30 College System, and the chancellor of L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College.

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)]

HR 212 Original

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Zeringue

Expresses support for the development of the Community College Resilience Center pilot project at L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College.