

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 173

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

A RESOLUTION

To create the Student Behavior, Mental Health, and Discipline Task Force to study improving certain policies relative to student behavior and discipline.

WHEREAS, it is important that public school students in Louisiana have nonacademic barriers to learning removed; and

WHEREAS, a group of stakeholders focused on a series of reforms could only address the mental health crisis among students and larger problems that could ultimately result in an increased high school graduation rate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby creates the Student Behavior, Mental Health, and Discipline Task Force to study improving certain policies relative to student behavior and discipline.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the chairman of the House Committee on Education, or his designee, and a representative of each of the following appointed by its president or executive director:

- (1) A representative of the Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana.
- (2) A representative of the Louisiana Association of Educators.
- (3) A representative of the Louisiana Association of Principals.
- (4) A representative of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents.
- (5) A representative of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity.
- (6) A representative of the Louisiana Federation of Teachers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall study data relative to student behavior, mental health, and student discipline including the following:

(1) The ability of public school governing authorities and the state Department of Education to provide trauma-informed services to public school students in grades kindergarten through twelve.

(2) The feasibility of having a school psychologist to student ratio of not less than one to five hundred and a social worker to student ratio of not less than one to two hundred fifty in school districts.

(3) The feasibility of prohibiting corporal punishment in public schools.

(4) The feasibility of prohibiting school discipline policies and practices, commonly known as "zero tolerance", that mandate predetermined consequences in response to specific types of student misbehavior, regardless of the context or rationale for the behavior.

(5) The notion of "willful disrespect" relative to school discipline.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force member who is a representative of the Louisiana Center for Health Equity shall serve as the chair of the task force, designate employees of the center to assist the task force, and convene its first meeting by July 18, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of its finding and recommendations, including proposed legislation, to the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana by January 17, 2023.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES