

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) to study the feasibility, including potential costs and savings, of requiring repayment of the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) by a student for any particular semester during the first two award years if the student does not make academic progress or fails to maintain full-time standing.

WHEREAS, TOPS is a program of scholarships for Louisiana residents who attend certain Louisiana postsecondary institutions; and

WHEREAS, TOPS first began in Fiscal Year (FY)1998-1999 and has provided cumulative awards of approximately one billion one hundred ninety million dollars to approximately four hundred fifty-eight thousand recipients; and

WHEREAS, approximately one hundred thirty-four million dollars in TOPS scholarships is provided for awards in the FY 2010-2011 budget; and

WHEREAS, approximately forty-three thousand Louisiana students are estimated to receive TOPS scholarships in FY 2010-2011.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request LOSFA to study the feasibility, including potential costs and savings, of requiring repayment of TOPS by a student for any particular semester during the first two award years if the student does not make academic progress or fails to maintain full-time standing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that LOSFA shall make a report of its findings to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than December 1, 2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall include information on the historical losses of TOPS funds provided to students who did not make academic progress or failed to maintain full-time standing, lengths of time for completion of postsecondary

education for students receiving TOPS, and the administrative costs of the TOPS program including the number of positions required for the administration of the program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive director of LOSFA.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE