ENROLLED

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 125

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to revise the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program testing schedule to provide for the administration of the tests required pursuant to the program as close to the end of the school year as practically possible and to report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education prior to the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, current law, R.S. 17:24.4, provides for the implementation of the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) by the state Department of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education; and

WHEREAS, the program specifies certain types of tests to be administered to public school students in certain grades and includes the *i*LEAP tests; and

WHEREAS, for the first several years of implementation of these LEAP test requirements, the tests generally were administered each year prior to the middle of March; and

WHEREAS, in response to requests from the legislature and concerns from teachers, parents, and others, the state board has revised the LEAP testing schedule in recent years to provide for the administration of the tests later in the school year, in early-to-mid April; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of these efforts, moving the test administration time even closer to the end of the school year in May of each year would allow for more instructional time prior to testing and less time between such testing and the end of a school year, during which time students sometimes lose focus; and

WHEREAS, the legislature enacted House Bill No. 1033 (Act No. 54) in the 2010 Regular Session which requires performance evaluation at every level of K-12 education to

be based on student growth and take into account starting points and other variables that might influence actual performance outcomes; and

WHEREAS, a major component of this important legislation provides for the development of a value-added measure applicable to teachers of grades and subjects that are part of the LEAP test requirements; and

WHEREAS, successful implementation of the provisions of Act No. 54 is essential to the continued recognition of Louisiana as a national leader in its use of value-added performance measures; and

WHEREAS, moving the LEAP testing periods closer to the end of the school year will allow more time for students to receive instruction and prepare for the tests which in turn will help achieve successful outcomes for the students, the value-added program, and ultimately, for the state as well.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to revise the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program testing schedule to provide for the administration of the tests required pursuant to the program in May of each year as close to the end of the school year as practically possible and to submit a written report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education prior to the beginning of the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature on the status of any actions taken relative to such schedule change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in revising the LEAP testing schedule, the board shall take into consideration the amount of time necessary to receive the test scores, determine which students will need remediation based upon the results of such test scores, and then provide the required summer school remediation programs to such students.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state superintendent of education.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE