

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 95

BY REPRESENTATIVE HAZEL

EDUCATION/ADULT: Requests the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education jointly to study and report on granting a La. high school diploma to successful completers of adult education programs that meet state established standards

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges and the
3 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education jointly to study the feasibility
4 of granting a Louisiana high school diploma to successful completers of adult
5 education programs that meet state standards and to report their findings and
6 recommendations at least sixty days prior to the 2013 Regular Session of the
7 Legislature of Louisiana.

8 WHEREAS, pursuant to current law, the Board of Supervisors of Community and
9 Technical Colleges is required to establish, operate, and maintain a statewide adult education
10 program and adopt regulations as may be necessary for the provision of such program; and

11 WHEREAS, in fulfilling this responsibility, the board recognizes that individual
12 educational achievement is important to the future potential of Louisiana's citizens, families,
13 communities, and economy, and of the nation; and

WHEREAS, the board further recognizes that statistics comparing educational attainment with income show that there is a significant correlation between level of education and income earning potential; and

17 WHEREAS, given these statistics, the board also recognizes that it is imperative that
18 Louisiana continuously seek to improve education services available to our adult population
19 which currently does not enjoy the opportunity and benefits that accrue to those with at least
20 a high school diploma; and

1 WHEREAS, information from the Louisiana Community and Technical College
2 System reveals that there are approximately one hundred thousand Louisiana citizens, ages
3 eighteen through twenty-four, who do not have at least a high school diploma; and

4 WHEREAS, many persons who complete an adult education program in Louisiana
5 seek and attain a General Educational Development (GED) credential and according to the
6 Louisiana Community and Technical College System, although this is a worthwhile
7 credential, it alone is no longer sufficient to guarantee a sustainable wage; and

8 WHEREAS, current law gives the State Board of Elementary and Secondary
9 Education the power to award certificates and issue diplomas for successful completion of
10 programs of study; and

11 WHEREAS, studies show that as today's job market becomes more and more
12 competitive, a growing number of employers are mandating at least a high school diploma
13 as a requirement for employment; and

14 WHEREAS, measures must be taken to ensure that those citizens who are seeking
15 employment in today's competitive market, including those who have successfully
16 completed an adult education program, are not forced into lower-paying jobs and less than
17 fulfilling careers, but rather are given ample opportunities for success and the other benefits
18 that come as a result of earning a high school diploma.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
20 urge and request the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges and the
21 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education jointly to study the feasibility of
22 granting a Louisiana high school diploma to persons who successfully complete an adult
23 education program that meets state standards and to report their findings and
24 recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on
25 Education at least sixty days prior to the convening of the 2013 Regular Session of the
26 Legislature of Louisiana.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
28 to the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, the
29 president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and the president of
30 the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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)]

Hazel

HCR No. 95

Requests the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education jointly to study the feasibility of granting a La. high school diploma to successful completers of adult education programs that meet state standards and to report their findings and recommendations to the House and Senate education committees at least 60 days prior to the 2013 R.S.