

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 92

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHAMPAGNE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Board of Regents to study executive compensation at the university system offices and boards and to report its findings to the legislature at least sixty days prior to the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana is currently faced with the challenge of closing a projected \$895 million shortfall and balancing a \$25.6 billion budget, is regularly faced with such challenges, and is forced to look at postsecondary education as a place to find savings; and

WHEREAS, in 2011-2012, the state of Louisiana's public postsecondary education budget was \$3.012 billion; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Regional Education Board's *Fact Book on Higher Education* for 2011 reports that the average annual salary for a CEO/single institution in Southern states is \$299,796 as compared to \$284,753 for all 50 states and D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the need for transparency with respect to the expenditure of public funds is self-evident; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 5 of the Constitution of Louisiana gives the Board of Regents the power to "formulate and make timely revision of a master plan for postsecondary education" which shall "include a formula for equitable distribution of funds to the institutions of postsecondary education"; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 12 of the Constitution of Louisiana requires appropriation of postsecondary education funds to the management boards and administration of those funds by those boards, so the legislature cannot be assured of equitable distribution to the institutions without accurate information on administrative costs of the system; and

WHEREAS, House Bill Number 173 as proposed in the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature requested that the Board of Regents make information pertaining to the salaries of system presidents available to the management boards of systems in the state of Louisiana and set caps on those salaries.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that the Board of Regents conduct a study of compensation for postsecondary system presidents and other system officers and board members, recognizing that such compensation encompasses not only base salaries but also personal emoluments, including but not limited to car or housing allowances.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Regents shall identify peer systems and the computation of system executives based upon the most recent data available from the Southern Regional Education Board, or if not available from the Southern Regional Education Board, then from such reliable source or sources as the Board of Regents selects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the legislature requests the Board of Regents to report its findings to the legislature at least sixty days prior to the convening of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the commissioner of higher education and the chairman of the Board of Regents.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE