

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 144

BY SENATOR APPEL

POSTSECONDARY ED. Requests the Board of Regents and the postsecondary education management boards to conduct a comprehensive study of student articulation and transfer in the state.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Board of Regents and the postsecondary education management
3 boards to collaboratively conduct a comprehensive study of articulation and transfer
4 policies and practices in the state's public institutions of postsecondary education.

5 WHEREAS, Act 356 of the 2009 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature
6 required the development and implementation of articulation and transfer programs and
7 agreements to facilitate and maximize the seamless transfer of students and academic credits
8 earned among and between the state's public secondary and postsecondary institutions; and

9 WHEREAS, the clear intent of this legislation was to create a clear pathway for
10 students to enable them to earn a postsecondary degree or credential in the most time
11 effective and resource efficient manner; and

12 WHEREAS, although the Board of Regents and the postsecondary education
13 management boards were quick to respond and have made notable progress, there is much
14 work yet to be done and there is a paucity of data upon which to accurately measure progress
15 made and upon which to base future actions; and

16 WHEREAS, the continually rising costs of postsecondary education and increasing
17 workforce demands for employees with the skills and postsecondary credentials necessary
18 for high quality jobs highlight the critical need to expand, refine, and institutionalize

1 comprehensive articulation and transfer practices at every school, in every degree and career
2 and technical program; and

3 WHEREAS, "two plus two" programs that enable students who successfully
4 complete a two-year degree program at a community college to transfer to a four-year
5 postsecondary institution to complete a baccalaureate degree program are proven to
6 significantly increase student academic success and degree attainment; and

7 WHEREAS, our state and our postsecondary institutions are failing our students if
8 we do not rise to the challenge and take every step possible to create a postsecondary
9 educational landscape that works collaboratively and collegially to provide every student
10 with the program that best fits his needs and lay a clear, unobstructed pathway for each
11 student to meet his educational and professional goals.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
13 does hereby urge and request the Board of Regents and the postsecondary education
14 management boards to collaboratively conduct a comprehensive study of articulation and
15 transfer policies and practices in the state's public institutions of postsecondary education.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this study shall include, at a minimum, the
17 following:

- 18 (1) Development of a broad definition of transfer.
- 19 (2) The total number of students who transfer.
- 20 (3) The institutions students transfer to and from.
- 21 (4) An examination of transfer patterns.
- 22 (5) The demographics of transfer students.
- 23 (6) The academic majors or career and technical training focus of transfer
24 students at both sending and receiving institutions.
- 25 (7) The number of academic credits earned by transfer students at sending and
26 receiving institutions.
- 27 (8) Documented completion of any academic awards earned by students prior to
28 transfer.
- 29 (9) The academic performance of transfer students at sending and receiving
30 institutions.

- 1 (10) A comparison of the academic performance of transfer students to that of
2 native students.
- 3 (11) The success rate of transfer students at receiving institutions in terms of
4 degree or program completion.
- 5 (12) The average number of credits earned by transfer students who complete a
6 bachelor's degree, as compared to native students who complete a bachelor's
7 degree.
- 8 (13) The performance of students who completed the general education English
9 requirements at the sending institution, and how these students performed in
10 writing intensive courses at the receiving institution.
- 11 (14) The performance of students who completed the general education math
12 requirements at the sending institution, and how these students performed in
13 math and science courses at the receiving institution.
- 14 (15) A listing of the most commonly completed courses at sending and receiving
15 institutions.
- 16 (16) Any other elements of transfer as deemed necessary by the Board of Regents
17 in consultation with the postsecondary education management boards.
- 18 (17) A comparison of all statistics collected for this study regarding Louisiana's
19 transfer activities to those of the other Southern Regional Education Board
20 states.
- 21 (18) Identification of obstacles preventing full implementation of Act 356 of the
22 2009 Regular Session and strategies to overcome these obstacles, including
23 any necessary legislation.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall submit a written
25 report of the findings of the study, and a summary of the statistics and data required for the
26 conduct of the study, to the Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on
27 Education not later than February 15, 2015.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
29 commissioner of higher education and the president of each public postsecondary education
30 management system.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeanne C. Johnston.

DIGEST

Appel

SR No. 144

Requests the Board of Regents and the postsecondary education management boards to collaboratively conduct a comprehensive study of articulation and transfer policies and practices in the state's public institutions of postsecondary education and provides a list of data elements to be included in the study.

Requires the Board of Regents to submit a written report of study findings and supporting statistics and data to the Senate and House committees on education not later than February 15, 2015.