

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 195

BY SENATOR APPEL

TECHNOLOGY. Requests BESE and DOE to identify the technology requirements necessary for effective implementation of Act No. 3 of the 2012 Regular Session.

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and the state Department of Education to identify the technology requirements necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of Act No. 3 of the 2012 Regular Session in early learning centers, including the cost per classroom, and the costs to purchase necessary software and equipment, obtain any Internet access, secure ongoing maintenance, and to train teachers on the use of the technology.

WHEREAS, Act No. 3 of the 2012 Regular Session declared that in order to significantly improve outcomes at all levels of the state's educational system, it is imperative that standards for, and expectations of, our early childhood programs be raised to levels that will promote kindergarten readiness and sustain lifelong learning and achievement; and

WHEREAS, Act No. 3, which includes publicly funded pre-kindergarten classes in public elementary schools and early learning centers in the community, directed the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to create a comprehensive and integrated network through which to manage and oversee all programs funded through state or federal resources that provide early childhood care or educational services; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the state Department of Education, and the Department of Children and Family Services have

1 worked collaboratively to implement the provisions of Act No. 3, including the integration
2 of standards and expectations across publicly funded early childhood care and education
3 programs in schools and the community and the support of regional pilot programs; and

4 WHEREAS, the implementation of Act No. 3 has appropriately focused on
5 increasing the quality of care and education across settings, preparing children to be
6 kindergarten-ready, and honoring family choices; and

7 WHEREAS, it is imperative that all publicly funded early childhood care and
8 education programs offer a consistent level of quality care and education to families, thereby
9 providing a safe, nurturing environment for children and preparing all students to
10 successfully enter kindergarten; and

11 WHEREAS, through the regional pilot programs, it has become apparent that the use
12 of technology by teachers is an integral part of the provision of high quality early care and
13 education and is critical to the success of Act No. 3 implementation; and

14 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 622 of the 2014 Regular Session provides for the
15 development and implementation of a statewide educational technology plan to ensure that
16 every public elementary and secondary school has the infrastructure and capacity necessary
17 to provide a high quality, digital instructional environment; and

18 WHEREAS, pre-kindergarten classrooms in schools will be included in the
19 technology plan as provided in Senate Bill No. 622, but early learning centers in the
20 community will not; and

21 WHEREAS, House Concurrent Resolution No. 61 of the 2014 Regular Session
22 requests the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a
23 statewide model for the equitable distribution of public funds for quality early childhood
24 care and education for Louisiana children, ages birth to five, whose families request such
25 services.

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
27 does hereby urge and request the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary
28 Education and the state Department of Education to identify the technology requirements
29 necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of Act No. 3 of the 2012 Regular
30 Session in early learning centers, including cost per classroom, and the cost to purchase

1 necessary software and equipment, obtain any Internet access, secure ongoing maintenance,
2 and to train teachers on the use of the technology.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the technology and training costs for early
4 learning centers and the cost per early learning center classroom be included in the statewide
5 model for funding of, and the equitable distribution of public funds for, quality early
6 childhood care and education for Louisiana children.

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

 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. 195

Requests BESE and the state Department of Education to identify the technology requirements necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of Act 3 of the 2012 RS in early learning centers, including the cost per classroom, and the costs to purchase necessary software and equipment, obtain any Internet access, secure ongoing maintenance, and to train teachers on the use of the technology.