## 2015 Regular Session

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 161

### BY REPRESENTATIVE BADON

# COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Requests public universities to offer all bachelor's degree programs online

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request Louisiana's public universities to continue to develop and offer online
3	courses such that all bachelor's degrees can be completed entirely online.
4	WHEREAS, institutions under the management of each public postsecondary
5	education management board offer some courses and degree programs online; and
6	WHEREAS, the benefits of online degree programs are numerous, for example,
7	students can work at their own pace and schedule, which allows students to more easily
8	integrate pursuit of a degree with the rest of their work and family obligations; and
9	WHEREAS, online degree programs also allow students to overcome geographic and
10	transportation obstacles by providing the same opportunities to students in other parts of the
11	country or world as those available to students who live in the neighborhood of the
12	institution, which in turn can dramatically reduce the total cost of completing a degree; and
13	WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana recognized the importance of reducing
14	geographic limitations to student learning in passing Act No. 13 of the 2014 Regular Session
15	of the Legislature, which authorizes the Board of Regents to enter reciprocity agreements
16	with other states such that online instruction from an institution in one state can be offered
17	in other states; and
18	WHEREAS, though the number of available online courses at Louisiana's public
19	universities and the popularity of such courses have grown tremendously over the past
20	covered vectors, there are still for encontrupities for students to complete a head-alor's decreas

several years, there are still few opportunities for students to complete a bachelor's degreeentirely online; and

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1 WHEREAS, many of the advantages of online courses are lost if a student cannot 2 complete a bachelor's degree entirely with such courses because eventually the student will 3 have to arrange to be on campus, to work around fixed-time course offerings, and to pay the 4 personal and financial costs associated therewith, or he or she will not be able to complete 5 a degree and will not have a credential to show for the work that was done. 6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request Louisiana's public universities to continue to develop and offer online 7 8 courses such that all bachelor's degrees can be completed entirely online. 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted 10 to the chairman of the Board of Regents for distribution to all Louisiana public

11 postsecondary institutions that offer bachelor's degrees.

## 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)]

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