

April 12, 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 72

DIGEST OF SR 72 (Updated April 10, 2019 5:56 pm - DI 133)

A SENATE RESOLUTION in honor of Senator Frank Mrvan and urging the legislative council to assign to the appropriate interim study committee the topic of the shortage of school counselors in Indiana's high schools.

Mrvan, Melton

April 4, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.
April 11, 2019, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

SR 72—DR 3859/DI AM



April 12, 2019

First Regular Session 121st General Assembly (2019)

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 72

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1 A SENATE RESOLUTION in honor of Senator Frank
2 Mrvan urging the legislative council to assign to the appropriate
3 interim study committee the topic of the shortage of school
4 counselors in Indiana's high schools.

5 *Whereas, In Indiana schools, counselors often have large*
6 *caseloads. In the 2014-2015 school year, the average number*
7 *of students per school counselor was 543 students;*

8 *Whereas, The American School Counselor Association*
9 *recommends that there should only be 250 students per school*
10 *counselor;*

11 *Whereas, Meaningful counseling can help schools support*
12 *students as they navigate problems both at home and in the*
13 *classroom. Appropriate guidance can also prepare Indiana's*
14 *high school students for the workforce by providing them with*
15 *all of the options available to them post-graduation;*

16 *Whereas, Many school counselors have stated that they are*
17 *unable to advise students on their futures because of*
18 *noncounseling related assignments;*

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1 *Whereas, Workforce readiness training for high school*
2 *students is imperative so that they have the proper knowledge*
3 *and tools to access every avenue for success in Indiana's*
4 *changing workforce demands;*

5 *Whereas, It is critical that students are presented with all*
6 *available options post-graduation, including opportunities that*
7 *may not involve traditional, formal education;*

8 *Whereas, The state should also ensure that there is*
9 *adequate funding for career counseling and that the workload*
10 *of career counselors is appropriate for each school and student*
11 *population;*

12
13 *Whereas, Programs for students planning for*
14 *post-secondary educations should be reviewed, including*
15 *college preparatory plans and future career paths for students*
16 *attending college;*

17 *Whereas, Programs for students planning for technical or*
18 *vocational training should be reviewed, including training for*
19 *careers in advanced manufacturing, health and life sciences, or*
20 *information technology services;*

21 *Whereas, Governor Holcomb has made it a top priority of*
22 *his administration to prepare the Hoosier workforce for*
23 *high-demand careers through the Next Level Jobs initiative;*
24 *and*

25 *Whereas, All programs promoted and recommended by*
26 *school counselors should follow Indiana Code § 20-37-1-1 to*
27 *ensure all the programs comply with Indiana school curriculum*
28 *standards: Therefore,*

29 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*
30 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

31 SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to assign to the

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- 1 appropriate interim study committee the topic of the shortage of school
- 2 counselors in Indiana's high schools.



COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Education and Career Development, to which was referred Senate Resolution No. 72, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said resolution be AMENDED as follows:

Page 1, line 1, after "RESOLUTION" insert "in honor of Senator Frank Mrvan".

Page 1, line 16, delete "they are too" and insert "*of noncounseling related assignments*";".

Page 1, delete line 17.

and when so amended that said resolution do pass.

(Reference is to SR 72 as introduced.)

RAATZ, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0.

