

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY REPRESENTATIVE POPE AND SENATOR ERDEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Board of Regents, in consultation with the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, to study the feasibility of offering community college services in Livingston Parish and to determine how the state can best meet the educational, economic, and workforce development needs of this region and to submit a written report of findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 5(D) of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to public postsecondary education institutions, provides with respect to the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 5(D)(2) of the Constitution of Louisiana provides that it is a power, duty, and responsibility of the Board of Regents to approve, disapprove, or modify a proposed degree program, department of instruction, division, or similar subdivision; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 5(D)(3)(a) of the Constitution of Louisiana provides that it is a power, duty, and responsibility of the Board of Regents to study the need for and feasibility of creating a new institution of postsecondary education, which includes establishing a branch of such an institution or converting any non-degree granting institution to an institution which grants degrees; and

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 5(D)(3)(b) of the Constitution of Louisiana provides that if the creation of a new institution, the merger of any institutions, the addition of another management board, or the transfer of an existing institution of higher education from one board to another is proposed, the Board of Regents shall report its written findings

and recommendations to the legislature within one year and only then, or after one year from a request for such a report from the legislature, may the legislature take affirmative action on such a proposal and then only by law enacted by two-thirds of the elected members of each house; and

WHEREAS, community college services, provided through the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, have proven effective in serving individuals and communities by offering targeted academic programs, technical education, and occupational training programs designed to meet the state's workforce and economic development needs; and

WHEREAS, Livingston Parish is an underserved area of the state in terms of postsecondary education opportunities, and there is a need for increased access to two-year academic degree programs there to meet the educational, economic, and workforce development needs of this region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Regents, in consultation with the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, to study the feasibility of offering community college services in Livingston Parish and to determine how the state can best meet the educational, economic, and workforce development needs of this region and to submit a written report of findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for legislation relative to the issue, to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the commissioner of higher education, the chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges, and the president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE