

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 201

BY REPRESENTATIVE PUGH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to review its policies relative to graduation requirements, particularly as they pertain to core curricula and diploma paths, and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, as stated in the Constitution of Louisiana, it is the goal of the public educational system to provide learning environments and experiences at all stages of human development that are humane, just, and designed to promote excellence in order that every individual may be afforded an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential; and

WHEREAS, there are two diploma paths for Louisiana high school students: the college and career diploma path, based on the components of the Core 4 Curriculum, and the career diploma path, based on the components of the Basic Core Curriculum; and

WHEREAS, the Core 4 Curriculum is designed to prepare students for entrance into a four-year Louisiana state university or for a career, and the Louisiana Basic Core Curriculum is designed to prepare students for entrance into a Louisiana state community college or technical school; and

WHEREAS, all ninth graders in the college and career diploma path are enrolled in the Core 4 Curriculum; when such a student has attended high school for a minimum of two years, he and his parent, guardian, or custodian may request that he be exempt from completing the Core 4 Curriculum and be placed instead in the Basic Core Curriculum; and

WHEREAS, there are some who feel that students would be better served by being able to choose between the Basic Core Curriculum and the Core 4 Curriculum upon entering high school rather than waiting until two years of high school have been completed; and

WHEREAS, another policy that is a cause of concern for some is the selection by students of an area of concentration, which some feel can limit students' ability to explore a variety of areas of study in order to discover where their interests lie; and

WHEREAS, in order for the public education system to meet its constitutional goal of providing learning environments and experiences at all stages of human development that are humane, just, and designed to promote excellence, it is imperative that every possible measure be taken to ensure that students are being equipped with the knowledge and skills to succeed in their postsecondary education and career pursuits.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to review its policies relative to graduation requirements, particularly as they pertain to core curricula and diploma paths, and to submit a written report of its findings and conclusions, including any recommendations for related legislation, to the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

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

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE