HLS 10RS-4858 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2010

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 218

BY REPRESENTATIVES NOWLIN, CROMER, DANAHAY, EDWARDS, GALLOT, GEYMANN, HARRISON, PUGH, RITCHIE, SCHRODER, AND SIMON

HIGHER EDUCATION: Requests the Board of Regents to restructure the performancebased funding formula and not to allocate funding based on performance until improvements to the formula are made

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

## 2 To urge and request the Board of Regents to restructure the performance-based funding 3 formula to better account for the unique roles, scopes, and missions of the state's 4 public postsecondary institutions, their admissions standards, and available resources 5 and that the board not allocate formula funding based upon performance until such 6 improvements to the formula are made. 7 WHEREAS, the Board of Regents has proposed a formula for the allocation of state 8 funding to postsecondary management boards; and 9 WHEREAS, the proposed formula, among other elements, includes performance 10 metrics which would be the basis for distribution of state appropriations; and 11 WHEREAS, it is unclear whether the metrics proposed clearly measure improvement 12 or success or merely provide a way to compare Louisiana institutions to each other; and 13 WHEREAS, the state's postsecondary education institutions, as part of their 14 respective approved roles, scopes, and missions have adopted different admission standards 15 resulting, among other things, in a disparity of academic success of their respective student 16 populations; and 17 WHEREAS, the colleges and universities also operate with significant disparities in 18 the rates of tuition and fees, thus affecting resources available to improve performance; and 19 WHEREAS, the result of the proposed approach to funding during a time of 20 declining resources is to put Louisiana's postsecondary education institutions in competition

1	with each other and does nothing to encourage improved performance of each individual
2	institution compared to itself over time or compared to its peer institutions; and
3	WHEREAS, this approach may incentivize state postsecondary education institutions
4	to adapt or modify their academic programs in an effort to maximize funding, possibly
5	damaging the regional or historical educational goals or objectives; and
6	WHEREAS, the ambiguities in the specific formula being implemented make it
7	extremely difficult for institutions to understand how and why some are receiving budget
8	cuts while others are receiving additional funds; and
9	WHEREAS, implementation of the performance-based funding element in the Fiscal
10	Year 2010-2011 budgets is projected to result in additional funding cuts to five institutions
11	in the University of Louisiana System, which are the following: Southeastern Louisiana
12	University, Northwestern State University, Grambling State University, McNeese State
13	University, and Nichols State University; and
14	WHEREAS, the adoption of the new funding formula at a time when the state is
15	facing major budget cuts over the next few years could be highly damaging to institutions,
16	programs, and students.
17	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
18	urge and request that the Board of Regents restructure the performance-based funding
19	formula to better account for the unique roles, scopes, and missions of the state's public
20	postsecondary institutions, their admissions standards, and available resources.
21	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana urges and requests
22	the Board of Regents not to allocate formula funding based upon performance until such
23	improvements to the formula are made.
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
25	commissioner of higher education and to each member of the Board of Regents.

## **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)]

Nowlin HCR No. 218

Requests the Board of Regents to restructure the performance-based funding formula to better account for the unique roles, scopes, and missions of the state's public postsecondary institutions, their admissions standards, and available resources and that the board not allocate formula funding based upon performance until such improvements to the formula are made.