

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 151

BY REPRESENTATIVE GAINES

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges to provide an exception to the admission standards adopted by each board for institutions under their supervision and management so that no veteran who is seeking to enroll at such a college or university is required to meet academic admission standards more stringent than those required by the college or university at the time the person became a member of the United States Armed Forces.

WHEREAS, the Constitution of Louisiana provides that powers of management over public institutions of postsecondary education not specifically vested by Article VIII, Section 5, in the Board of Regents are reserved to the respective management boards as to the institutions under the control of each; and

WHEREAS, each public postsecondary education management board, in collaboration with the Board of Regents, has established minimum academic standards that a person who is seeking to enroll at a college or university under its supervision and management must meet in order to be admitted; and

WHEREAS, during the past decade and especially in recent years, such minimum academic standards have been in a state of flux and have generally become more stringent; and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised to members of the legislature that there are veterans seeking to enroll at our public colleges and universities who are being denied

admission to their institution of choice solely because the admission criteria have changed subsequent to their becoming members of the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, each public postsecondary education management board has the authority to provide a limited number of exceptions to the admission standards established for the colleges and universities under their management and supervision and have done so for a variety of purposes; and

WHEREAS, making an exception for a person who made a decision to delay or interrupt his pursuit of a public postsecondary education in order to join the United States Armed Forces and serve his country during a time of armed conflict is sound public policy and benefits the veteran, the postsecondary education institution, and the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of Supervisors of Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System, and the Board of Supervisors of Community and Technical Colleges to provide an exception to the admission standards adopted by each board for institutions under their supervision and management so that no veteran who is seeking to enroll at such a college or university is required to meet academic admission standards more stringent than those required by the college or university at the time the person became a member of the United States Armed Forces.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that for purposes of the Resolution, the word "veteran" means a citizen of the United States or a resident alien who has been released from military service under a condition other than dishonorable and who meets at least one of the following conditions:

- (1) Has engaged in active duty in the United States Armed Forces.
- (2) Is a member of the national guard or is a reserve enlistee called to active duty for purposes other than training.
- (3) Was a cadet or midshipman at a United States Armed Forces service academy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the presiding officer of each public postsecondary education management board and to the president of the Louisiana State University System, the president of the Southern

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University System, the president of the University of Louisiana System, and the president of the Community and Technical College System.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES