

1 WHEREAS, many of the school food service workers in East Baton Rouge Parish
2 have strong ties to the community and enjoy working in the communities they serve; and

3 WHEREAS, food service workers play a crucial role in encouraging students to
4 understand the importance of eating a balanced diet; and

5 WHEREAS, food service workers responsibilities for food safety are equally
6 important and include recognizing and responding to a growing number of food-borne
7 illnesses and food allergies; understanding of the requirements for proper storage and
8 preparation of food, whether pre-packaged, prepared elsewhere, or cooked on site; and
9 knowledge about nutrition and how to incorporate it into the preparation of a meal; and

10 WHEREAS, school food service workers not only serve students breakfast and lunch
11 but assist students in maintaining decorum and a safe environment while they occupy the
12 school cafeterias; and

13 WHEREAS, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board has elected to layoff up to
14 twenty-five workers and contract with outside vendors for the provision of school meals; and

15 WHEREAS, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall ensure that there is an
16 appreciable cost savings achieved by the layoff and the decision to contract with outside
17 vendors for the provision of school meals; and

18 WHEREAS, the school board shall ensure that the food served by the outside
19 vendors is not of lesser quality, appeal, or nutritional value than that currently being served
20 by school food service workers; and

21 WHEREAS, the outsourced company that handles the food service responsibilities
22 should have training in nutrition, menu planning, and safety regulations; and

23 WHEREAS, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board shall ensure that the outside
24 vendors prepare school meals that are responsive to the legislative findings in R.S. 17:197.1.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
26 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the East Baton Rouge Parish School
27 Board to ensure that there is not a reduction in the quality and nutritional value of meals
28 prepared for students as the result of the outsourcing of the food services that are presently
29 provided by school food service workers.

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)]

Barrow

HR No. 207

Urges and requests the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board to ensure that there is not a reduction in the quality and nutritional value of meals prepared for students as the result of the outsourcing of the food services that are presently provided by school food service workers.