HLS 10RS-6379 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2010

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 207

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARROW

EDUCATION: 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 the meals that are prepared for students by contracted outside food vendors

A RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board to ensure that there is not
3	a reduction in the quality and nutritional value of meals prepared for students as the
4	result of the outsourcing of the food services that are presently provided by school
5	food service workers.
6	WHEREAS, food service workers play a critical role in ensuring that students have
7	an opportunity for safe and healthy meals at school; and
8	WHEREAS, healthy foods support physical growth, brain development, resistance
9	to disease, emotional stability, and the ability to learn; and
10	WHEREAS, academic performance and quality of life issues are affected by the
11	choice and availability of nutritional foods in our schools; and
12	WHEREAS, the school food service workers in East Baton Rouge Parish are
13	responsible for large scale meal planning and service to the children who attend the area
14	schools; and
15	WHEREAS, the school food service workers in East Baton Rouge Parish have been
16	hard-working, dedicated employees who have been diligent in the preparation of healthy
17	meals for school children throughout the years in an effort to assist in the facilitation of
18	learning; and
19	WHEREAS, East Baton Rouge Parish school food service workers are dedicated to
20	their schools, students, and communities; and

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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.

WHEREAS, many of the school food service workers in East Baton Rouge Parish

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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.