

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 134

BY SENATOR BROOME

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to study the efforts of various agencies and organizations related to fighting the childhood obesity epidemic and to urge and request those various agencies and organizations to report by January 1, 2012, to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare about the status of their ongoing efforts to curb the high incident rate of childhood obesity.

WHEREAS, childhood obesity is a serious health problem in the state requiring urgent attention and a community-based prevention approach so as to ensure the health, productivity, and well-being of future generations of Louisianians; and

WHEREAS, according to the Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management, seventeen percent of children in Louisiana are overweight; and

WHEREAS, being overweight or obese substantially increases a child's risk of cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, stroke, sleep apnea, hypertension, some forms of cancer, and osteoarthritis, and more children are being diagnosed with these "adult" diseases; and

WHEREAS, poor dietary habits and lack of physical activity are significant controllable contributing factors to obesity in children; and

WHEREAS, obesity in children also carries with it significant costs for the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the efforts by all of the various groups and entities whose mission is to help curb the rising rates of childhood obesity work in conjunction with each other so that efforts are not duplicated and the maximum amount of resources are being directed at this growing epidemic.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to study the ongoing efforts of various groups related to fighting the childhood obesity epidemic.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a representative from each of the following agencies and organizations is hereby requested to report by January 1, 2012, to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare about the status of their ongoing efforts to curb the high incident rate of childhood obesity:

- (1) The office of public health within the Department of Health and Hospitals.
- (2) Pennington Biomedical Research Center.
- (3) Louisiana Hospital Association.
- (4) Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management.
- (5) Department of Education.
- (6) Louisiana State Medical Society.
- (7) Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.
- (8) Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.
- (9) Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation.
- (10) The Links, Incorporated.
- (11) Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports.
- (12) Office of the Mayor-President for East Baton Rouge Parish.
- (13) Louisiana Dietetic Association.
- (14) LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport.
- (15) E. A. Conway Medical Center in Monroe.
- (16) Huey P. Long Medical Center in Pineville.
- (17) Tulane University School of Medicine.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the office of public health, the Louisiana State University System, Louisiana Hospital Association, Louisiana Council on Obesity Prevention and Management, Department of Education, Louisiana State Medical Society, Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana Foundation, The Links, Incorporated, Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, Office of the Mayor-President for East Baton Rouge Parish, and the Louisiana Dietetic Association.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE