

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 189

BY SENATOR QUINN

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to establish a special committee to research, study, and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of extending child support beyond the age of majority, and to report its findings to the Senate prior to the convening of the 2011 Regular Session.

WHEREAS, R.S. 9:315.22 provides for the termination of child support upon majority or emancipation; and

WHEREAS, during the 2007 Regular Session of the Legislature, House Concurrent Resolution 165 requested the Marriage-Persons Committee of the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the extension of child support past the age of majority; and

WHEREAS, there is a high incidence of divorce in the United States and many of the couples involved in divorce have minor children; and

WHEREAS, the tuition involved in attending an institution of higher education is ever increasing due to budget constraints and other factors; and

WHEREAS, some children, who are capable and qualified students, may be unable to attend an institution of higher education without the financial support of their parents, and some parents have the financial ability to contribute to the higher education of their children; and

WHEREAS, some states allow a parental support obligation to continue beyond the age of majority while the child completes his or her education or until the child reaches a certain age; and

WHEREAS, the laws, jurisprudence, and policies of other states should be researched and reviewed to provide potential guidance to the Law Institute and the legislature in studying the issue of whether to extend child support beyond the age of majority; and

WHEREAS, should legislation be considered necessary after such review and analysis, the report to the Senate shall include proposed legislation in appropriate form and content to address these issues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to establish a special committee to research, study, and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of extending child support beyond the age of majority and to report its findings to the Senate prior to the convening of the 2011 Regular Session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to appoint the following members to serve on the committee:

(1) A chairman, "reporter", to be designated by the chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary A.

(2) One family court judge who regularly hears family law matters.

(3) One professor who teaches family law or his designee.

(4) Two attorneys who are certified family law specialists to be selected from different regions of the state, one male and one female.

(5) Three persons who specialize in mental health, with a focus on the treatment of children of divorce.

(6) The secretary of the Department of Social Services or his designee.

(7) The executive director of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association or his designee.

(8) The reporter for the Marriage-Persons, Child Support, and Children's Code Committees of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

(9) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary A or the chair's designee.

(10) The chairman of the House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure or his designee.

(11) The chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means or his designee.

(12) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Education or his designee.

(13) The chairman of the House Committee on Education or his designee.

- (14) The executive director of the Louisiana Family Forum or his designee.
- (15) The chief justice of the Supreme Court of Louisiana or a designee.
- (16) The president of the University of Louisiana System or his designee.
- (17) The president of the Louisiana State University System or his designee.
- (18) The president of the Southern University System or his designee.
- (19) The president of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System or his designee.
- (20) The executive director of the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance or a designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute is requested to submit a written report of its findings and study results, together with any recommendations for legislation, by submission to the president of the Senate at least thirty days prior to the convening of the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the director of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE