

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE STUDY REQUEST NO. 1

BY SENATORS WARD AND MORRELL

LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT. Requests the Senate Committee on Education to study the feasibility of having legislative oversight over certain disciplinary decisions made by the Louisiana High School Athletic Association.

1 A STUDY REQUEST

2 To request the Senate Committee on Education to study the feasibility of having legislative
3 oversight over certain disciplinary decisions made by the Louisiana High School
4 Athletic Association.

5 WHEREAS, the Louisiana High School Athletic Association (LHSAA) was created
6 to promote, regulate, and direct the interscholastic athletic activities of Louisiana public and
7 nonpublic high schools that are members of the association; and

8 WHEREAS, the constitution adopted by the LHSAA states that its purposes include
9 promoting the spirit of sportsmanship and fair play in all athletic contests; and

10 WHEREAS, the LHSAA constitution further states that the association is vitally
11 interested in the welfare of every boy and girl participating in its athletic contests and that
12 it is for the protection of their interests that the association operates; and

13 WHEREAS, on March 17, 2012, an altercation occurred between members of two
14 high school baseball teams which resulted in a decision by the executive director and the
15 executive committee of the LHSAA to ban both teams from the postseason playoffs; and

16 WHEREAS, certain individuals affiliated with both teams, including the head
17 coaches, have been reprimanded and are prohibited from being present or in the vicinity of
18 any tournament or sporting event where his team is participating; and

1 WHEREAS, in order to provide a more equitable system of checks and balances
2 regarding student athletes and the sporting events in which they participate, it is imperative
3 that a study be conducted to determine the necessity for legislative oversight in order to
4 ensure that disciplinary decisions and actions taken by the executive director and the
5 executive committee of the LHSAA are fair and reasonable and consistent with its
6 constitution, rules, and by-laws.

7 THEREFORE, the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana requests that the Senate
8 Committee on Education study the feasibility of having legislative oversight over
9 disciplinary decisions and actions taken by the LHSAA and to make a written report of its
10 findings to the Senate not later than thirty days prior to the convening of the 2013 Regular
11 Session of the Legislature.

12 A copy of this Study Request shall be transmitted to the executive director of the
13 Louisiana High School Athletic Association.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

DIGEST

Ward

SSR No. 1

Requests the Senate Committee on Education to study the feasibility of having legislative oversight over disciplinary decisions made by the Louisiana High School Athletic Association and to make a written report of its findings to the Senate not later than 30 days prior to the convening of the 2013 R.S.