

## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 72

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### DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to the appropriate interim study committee the topic of the shortage of school counselors in Indiana's high schools.

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**Mrvan, Melton**

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April 4, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Education and Career Development.

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## SENATE RESOLUTION No. 72

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION urging the legislative council  
2 to assign to the appropriate interim study committee the topic  
3 of the shortage of school counselors in Indiana's high schools.

4           *Whereas, In Indiana schools, counselors often have large*  
5 *caseloads. In the 2014-2015 school year, the average number*  
6 *of students per school counselor was 543 students;*

7           *Whereas, The American School Counselor Association*  
8 *recommends that there should only be 250 students per school*  
9 *counselor;*

10           *Whereas, Meaningful counseling can help schools support*  
11 *students as they navigate problems both at home and in the*  
12 *classroom. Appropriate guidance can also prepare Indiana's*  
13 *high school students for the workforce by providing them with*  
14 *all of the options available to them post-graduation;*

15           *Whereas, Many school counselors have stated that they are*  
16 *unable to advise students on their futures because they are too*  
17 *busy handling social-emotional issues;*

18           *Whereas, Workforce readiness training for high school*



1 *students is imperative so that they have the proper knowledge*  
 2 *and tools to access every avenue for success in Indiana's*  
 3 *changing workforce demands;*

4 *Whereas, It is critical that students are presented with all*  
 5 *available options post-graduation, including opportunities that*  
 6 *may not involve traditional, formal education;*

7 *Whereas, The state should also ensure that there is*  
 8 *adequate funding for career counseling and that the workload*  
 9 *of career counselors is appropriate for each school and student*  
 10 *population;*

11  
 12 *Whereas, Programs for students planning for*  
 13 *post-secondary educations should be reviewed, including*  
 14 *college preparatory plans and future career paths for students*  
 15 *attending college;*

16 *Whereas, Programs for students planning for technical or*  
 17 *vocational training should be reviewed, including training for*  
 18 *careers in advanced manufacturing, health and life sciences, or*  
 19 *information technology services;*

20 *Whereas, Governor Holcomb has made it a top priority of*  
 21 *his administration to prepare the Hoosier workforce for*  
 22 *high-demand careers through the Next Level Jobs initiative;*  
 23 *and*

24 *Whereas, All programs promoted and recommended by*  
 25 *school counselors should follow Indiana Code § 20-37-1-1 to*  
 26 *ensure all the programs comply with Indiana school curriculum*  
 27 *standards: Therefore,*

28 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
 29 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

30 SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to assign to the  
 31 appropriate interim study committee the topic of the shortage of school



1 counselors in Indiana's high schools.

