

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY REPRESENTATIVE GLOVER

HIGHER ED/BD REGENTS: Requests that the Bd. of Regents provide for an updated study and report relative to the issues addressed in the 2012 report by Eva Klein and Associates pertaining to postsecondary education in the Shreveport-Bossier region

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Board of Regents to provide for an updated study and report relative
3 to the issues addressed in the 2012 report by Eva Klein and Associates, *Achieving*
4 *a Comprehensive Public University in Shreveport-Bossier: Analysis of Alternative*
5 *Strategies*, and issue a status report to the House Committee on Education and the
6 Senate Committee on Education not later than 90 days prior to the beginning of the
7 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature.

8 WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 5(D)(2) of the Constitution of Louisiana provides,
9 relative to public institutions of postsecondary education, that it is a power, duty, and
10 responsibility of the Board of Regents to approve a proposed degree program, department
11 of instruction, division, or similar subdivision; Article VIII, Section 5(D)(3)(a) of the
12 constitution further provides that it is a power, duty, and responsibility of the Board of
13 Regents to study the need for and feasibility of creating a new institution of postsecondary
14 education, which includes establishing a branch of such an institution; and

15 WHEREAS, the Board of Regents, along with several community organizations, co-
16 sponsored a study conducted in 2011-2012 by Eva Klein and Associates, the objective of
17 which, in part, was to identify options for a more comprehensive public university in
18 Shreveport-Bossier, including a possible consolidation of institutions; and

19 WHEREAS, the report issued in February of 2012 as the result of the study made
20 several recommendations relative to postsecondary education in the region, one of which

1 was the consolidation of Louisiana Tech University and Louisiana State University at
2 Shreveport into a single institution operating as Louisiana Tech University with two
3 campuses, one in Ruston and one in Shreveport; and

4 WHEREAS, this recommended merger was formally endorsed by the Board of
5 Regents in the spring of 2012, and related legislation was filed in the 2012 Regular Session
6 of the Legislature in the form of House Bill No. 964, which ultimately did not pass; and

7 WHEREAS, it has been more than seven years since the issuance of the report, and
8 there is ongoing debate as to the possible consolidation of these institutions; therefore, it is
9 appropriate that the Board of Regents take the necessary measures to provide for an updated
10 study of this matter and other issues related to postsecondary education in the Shreveport-
11 Bossier region.

12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
13 urge and request the Board of Regents to provide for an updated study and accompanying
14 report relative to the issues addressed in the 2012 report by Eva Klein and Associates,
15 *Achieving a Comprehensive Public University in Shreveport-Bossier: Analysis of Alternative*
16 *Strategies*, and issue a status report to the House Committee on Education and the Senate
17 Committee on Education not later than 90 days prior to the beginning of the 2020 Regular
18 Session of the Legislature.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
20 to the chairman of the Board of Regents and the commissioner of higher education.

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)]

HCR 102 Original

2019 Regular Session

Glover

Requests that the Bd. of Regents provide for an updated study and report on the issues addressed in the 2012 report by Eva Klein and Associates, *Achieving a Comprehensive Public University in Shreveport-Bossier: Analysis of Alternative Strategies*, and issue a status report to the House and Senate education committees by 90 days prior to the beginning of the 2020 RS.