## Regular Session, 2011

### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 128

### BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHRODER

# STATE EMPLOYEES: Requests establishment of pay systems and procedures for classified and unclassified state employees that provide for cost-of-living increases and rewards for performance and clearly distinguish between them

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the State Civil Service Commission, the governor through the
3	commissioner of administration in cooperation with statewide elected officials and
4	the Public Service Commission, and the Board of Regents in cooperation with the
5	management boards for public postsecondary education systems expeditiously to
6	develop and implement pay systems and procedures for all state employees,
7	classified and unclassified, that meet certain criteria; to provide for submission
8	thereof to specified legislative committees and for hearings thereon; and to provide
9	for related matters.
10	WHEREAS, in the face of a very difficult state financial situation, the State Civil
11	Service Commission and the governor imposed a ban on merit pay increases for classified
12	employees for Fiscal Year 2010-2011, and the State Civil Service Commission has approved
13	and the governor has signed such a ban for Fiscal Year 2011-2012; and
14	WHEREAS, the governor has issued executive orders banning merit pay increases
15	for unclassified employees for the current fiscal year and for the fiscal year that begins on
16	July 1, 2011, and he has also issued an executive order for the current fiscal year prohibiting
17	expenditure of funds related to unclassified personal services for the purpose of pay
18	increases with certain exemptions; and
19	WHEREAS, sound human resource policy should not be based on changing financial
20	conditions, but should be effective for all situations and should withstand the test of time and
21	changing circumstances; and the measures that have been taken to freeze pay levels focus

attention upon the need to give serious consideration to pay structures and procedures and
 the methods used to grant pay increases to both classified and unclassified employees; and
 WHEREAS, prior to these pay freezes, classified state employees were granted
 annual salary increases contingent upon performance evaluation, but improvements in the
 system are being considered; and

6 WHEREAS, a recent review of procedures used for granting pay increases for 7 unclassified employees, prepared for the State Civil Service Commission Study Group in 8 response to House Resolution No. 180, revealed that increases for unclassified employees 9 of state departments typically are not tied to a structured performance evaluation, while such 10 increases for unclassified employees of higher education boards and institutions, though 11 often tied to such an evaluation system, are in a number of instances granted with no tie to 12 performance or with a fairly wide variation in the percentage increase; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for state employees and the taxpaying public to have confidence that state employee pay is based upon pay plans and procedures that assure a fair wage that keeps up with the cost of living and grant additional monetary rewards to employees whose performance truly deserves extra recognition.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 18 urge and request the State Civil Service Commission, the governor through the 19 commissioner of administration in cooperation with the statewide elected officials and the 20 Public Service Commission, and the Board of Regents in cooperation with the management 21 boards for public postsecondary education systems expeditiously to develop and implement 22 pay systems and procedures for all state employees, classified and unclassified, that:

(1) Provide for effective performance evaluation systems to be used to improve
employee performance and to determine eligibility for and the type of pay increases the
employee will receive.

26 (2) Provide for base pay increases that are cost-of-living increases directly related
27 to indexes of actual increases in the cost of living.

(3) Provide for variable payment of performance awards to be granted to outstanding
employees based upon current performance.

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(4) Clearly distinguish pay for performance and cost-of-living increases.

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(5) Provide a basis for state employees and Louisiana taxpayers to have confidence 2 that pay systems and procedures for state employees are fair and effective, including cost-of-3 living increases and additional amounts based upon meritorious performance.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to accomplish the intent of this 5 Resolution, the legislature requests the State Civil Service Commission to develop and 6 propose pay systems and procedures for classified employees that comply with this 7 Resolution as soon as possible.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to accomplish the intent of this 9 Resolution, the legislature requests the governor through the commissioner of 10 administration, in cooperation with statewide elected officials and the Public Service 11 Commission, to develop and propose pay systems and procedures for unclassified employees 12 in the departments of state government that shall be applicable to all such employees and 13 that, except as fully explained and justified, shall be substantially similar to the proposals 14 of the State Civil Service Commission.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in order to accomplish the intent of this 16 Resolution, the legislature requests the Board of Regents in cooperation with the 17 management boards for public postsecondary education systems, to develop and propose pay 18 systems and procedures for unclassified employees under the jurisdiction of such boards 19 that, except as fully explained and justified, shall be applicable to all such employees and 20 substantially similar to the proposals of the State Civil Service Commission.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, not later than December 31, 2011, and prior to 22 implementation, the State Civil Service Commission shall submit its proposals for pay 23 systems and procedures for classified employees that comply with this Resolution to the 24 House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee on Senate 25 and Governmental Affairs and the House Committee on Appropriations and the Senate 26 Committee on Finance and that, not later than March 1, 2012, and prior to implementation, 27 the governor through the commissioner of administration, in cooperation with the statewide elected officials and the Public Service Commission, and also the Board of Regents in 28 29 cooperation with the management boards for public postsecondary education systems, shall 30 submit their proposed pay systems and procedures for unclassified employees that comply

- 1 with this Resolution to such committees, and that any of such committees may hold such
- 2 hearings concerning such proposed systems and procedures as they deem useful and may
- 3 make such recommendations to those submitting such systems and procedures as they deem
- 4 necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Resolution.

# 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)]

### Schroder

### HCR No. 128

**Abstract:** Requests implementation of pay systems and procedures for classified and unclassified state employees that provide base pay increases to meet the cost of living, reward outstanding current performance, and distinguish between cost-of-living increases and pay for performance.

<u>Proposed Concurrent Resolution</u> requests the State Civil Service Commission, the governor through the commissioner of administration in cooperation with the statewide elected officials and the Public Service Commission, and the Board of Regents in cooperation with the management boards for public postsecondary education systems expeditiously to develop and implement pay systems and procedures for all state employees, classified and unclassified, that meet certain criteria, namely:

- (1) Provide for effective performance evaluation systems to be used to improve employee performance and to determine eligibility for and the type of pay increases the employee will receive.
- (2) Provide for base pay increases that are cost-of-living increases directly related to indexes of actual increases in the cost of living.
- (3) Provide for variable payment of performance awards to be granted to outstanding employees based upon current performance.
- (4) Clearly distinguish pay for performance and cost-of-living increases.
- (5) Provide a basis for state employees and La. taxpayers to have confidence that pay systems and procedures for state employees are fair and effective, including cost-of-living increases and additional amounts based upon meritorious performance.

Requests the State Civil Service Commission to propose such pay systems and procedures for classified employees as soon as possible. Requests the governor through the commissioner of administration, in cooperation with statewide elected officials and the Public Service Commission, to propose such pay systems and procedures for unclassified employees in the state government departments, that are applicable to all such employees and, except as fully explained and justified, are substantially similar to the State Civil Service Commission's proposals. Requests the Board of Regents in cooperation with the management boards for public postsecondary education systems, to propose such pay systems and procedures for unclassified employees under the jurisdiction of such boards that, except as fully explained and justified, are applicable to all such employees and substantially similar to the State Civil Service Commission's proposals.

Provides for submission of proposals, prior to implementation, to the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs and the Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs and the House Committee on Appropriations and Senate Committee on Finance. Provides for the State Civil Service Commission to submit its proposals not later than Dec. 31, 2011, and for the other proposals to be submitted not later than March 1, 2012. Authorizes any of such committees to hold hearings and make recommendations concerning such proposals as they deem necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Resolution.