HLS 12RS-4639 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2012

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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 168

## BY REPRESENTATIVE CARMODY

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Relative to the La. State University Shreveport Commitment Plan as unanimously endorsed by the LSU Board of Supervisors on April 27, 2012, provides legislative findings and for certain reports to the legislature, the legislative education committees, and the Board of Regents for the next three academic years

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To provide legislative findings relative to the Louisiana State University Shreveport
3	Commitment Plan as unanimously endorsed by the Board of Supervisors of
4	Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College on April 27,
5	2012, to urge and request all public postsecondary education institutions in the
6	region to fully cooperate and support plan implementation; and to specify that the
7	Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical
8	College shall make certain written reports to the legislature, the legislative education
9	committees, and the Board of Regents for the next three academic years on its
10	progress in plan implementation.
11	WHEREAS, Shreveport-Bossier is the third largest metropolitan area in Louisiana
12	and deserves a strong, vibrant, comprehensive research university to meet the education,
13	workforce, and economic development needs of the region; and
14	WHEREAS, many civic and business leaders in the region have expressed deep
15	interest in exploring various methods for expanding the regional capacity for additional
16	academic programs; and
17	WHEREAS, while current postsecondary programs at the technical and associate
18	degree level are ample and diverse, there still are limited opportunities for comprehensive
19	undergraduate and graduate degree programs in Northwest Louisiana; and
20	WHEREAS, Louisiana State University at Shreveport, as the area's urban university,
21	is best positioned to serve regional needs through an expansion of current course offerings
22	in targeted program areas; and

1	WHEREAS, Louisiana State University at Shreveport, in collaboration with
2	colleagues at the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport and
3	Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, has developed the
4	Louisiana State University Shreveport Commitment Plan for the continued growth of
5	Louisiana State University at Shreveport; and
6	WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural
7	and Mechanical College on April 27, 2012, unanimously endorsed the Louisiana State
8	University Shreveport Commitment Plan and directed its implementation through close
9	collaboration with all institutions in the Louisiana State University System thereby
10	recognizing that all Louisiana State University entities have a stake in the successful
11	development of Louisiana State University at Shreveport; and
12	WHEREAS, the Louisiana State University Shreveport Commitment Plan defines
13	both a series of short-term initiatives designed to provide immediate impact from new
14	program offerings combined with longer-term initiatives to grow selected graduate
15	programs; and
16	WHEREAS, as institutional, regional, and state funding resources permit,
17	investments should be made to further grow Louisiana State University at Shreveport into
18	a strong urban research university with a mix of baccalaureate, master's, professional, and
19	targeted doctoral programs, accompanied by strategic research endeavors that enhance
20	economic development in the metropolitan area; and
21	WHEREAS, during this period of budget austerity, the implementation of the
22	Louisiana State University Shreveport Commitment Plan presents a cost-effective,
23	expeditious, and efficient way to address regional postsecondary education needs.
24	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby find
25	that the Louisiana State University Shreveport Commitment Plan as adopted by the Board
26	of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College on
27	April 27, 2012, can be a cost-effective, efficient, and immediate strategy for enhancing
28	postsecondary education needs in the region, including raising the educational attainment
29	of the population; improving the quality of life and economic well-being of Shreveport-
30	Bossier residents; ensuring that students are provided the educational resources they need

1 to have a reasonable chance for success in their academic pursuits; making optimal use of

2 facilities, faculties, and other academic and fiscal resources associated with the public

3 postsecondary institutions; and maintaining and growing foundation and alumni monies

4 attained for the purpose of supporting Louisiana State University at Shreveport.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all public institutions of postsecondary education in the region and the Board of Regents are urged and requested to fully cooperate and support implementation of the Louisiana State University Shreveport Commitment Plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College shall report in writing to the legislature as provided by R.S. 17:771 and 772, the House Committee on Education and the Senate Committee on Education, and the Board of Regents two weeks after the end of each Fall and Spring semester for the next three academic years on its progress in implementing the Louisiana State University Shreveport Commitment Plan, which report shall include but not be limited to details on new programs offered and put into effect as well as student enrollment and completion data for such programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the presiding officer of the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College, the president of the Louisiana State University System, the presiding officer of the Board of Regents, and the commission 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)]

Carmody HCR No. 168

Provides legislative findings relative to the La. State University Shreveport Commitment Plan as unanimously endorsed by the LSU Board of Supervisors on April 27, 2012, requests all public postsecondary education institutions in the region to fully cooperate and support plan implementation, and specifies that the LSU Board of Supervisors shall make certain written reports to the legislature, the legislative education committees, and the Board of Regents for the next three academic years on the progress of plan implementation.