

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 168

BY REPRESENTATIVES CARMODY AND HENRY BURNS

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

1                                   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.

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

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the authority of the Board of Regents to  
9 formulate and make timely revision of a master plan for postsecondary education and the  
10 process for so doing as provided by R.S. 17:3128 is hereby recognized, and the board is  
11 urged and requested to continue to apply its policies and procedures in evaluating the  
12 proposed role, scope, and mission statements of any public postsecondary education  
13 institution.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State  
15 University and Agricultural and Mechanical College shall report in writing to the legislature  
16 as provided by R.S. 24:771 and 772, the House Committee on Education and the Senate  
17 Committee on Education, and the Board of Regents two weeks after the end of each Fall and  
18 Spring semester for the next three academic years on its progress in implementing the  
19 Louisiana State University Shreveport Commitment Plan, which report shall include but not  
20 be limited to details on new programs offered and put into effect as well as student  
21 enrollment and completion data for such programs.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted  
23 to the presiding officer of the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and  
24 Agricultural and Mechanical College, the president of the Louisiana State University  
25 System, the presiding officer of the Board of Regents, and the commission of higher  
26 education.

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**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)]

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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, requests the Board of Regents to continue to apply its policies and procedures in evaluating proposed role, scope, and mission statements, 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.

**Summary of Amendments Adopted by House****House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.**

1. Adds provision relative to evaluation by the Board of Regents of proposed role, scope, and mission statements.
2. Makes a technical correction