HLS 24RS-507 ORIGINAL

2024 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRASS

SCHOOLS/HIGH SCHOOL: Creates a task force to evaluate the use of LEAP tests in determinations relative to high school graduation

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To create a task force to evaluate the use of high stakes testing in determinations relative to
3	high school graduation and to submit a written report to the House Committee on
4	Education and the Senate Committee on Education not later than March 1, 2025.
5	WHEREAS, current law, R.S. 17:24.4, requires the state Department of Education
6	to implement the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) with the approval of
7	the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE); and
8	WHEREAS, the law further requires that BESE implement standards-based
9	assessments in English language arts, math, science, and social studies and requires BESE
10	to establish by rule the adequate test score to determine successful performance of the
11	student on each test; and
12	WHEREAS, successful performance on certain LEAP tests is required to obtain a
13	high school diploma; and
14	WHEREAS, in 2023, BESE adopted a policy establishing an appeals process for high
15	school seniors unable to meet the state's LEAP test requirements for graduation; this policy
16	was overturned by an executive order in January of 2024; and
17	WHEREAS, legislation has been filed for the 2024 Regular Session of the
18	Legislature that prohibits the use of an appeals process for students who fail to pass LEAP
19	tests required for graduation; alternatively, legislation has also been filed that requires the
20	awarding of a diploma to these students if alternate criteria are met; and

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2	LEAP in determinations relative to high school graduation and other possible measures that
3	could be used to confirm students' graduation eligibility and readiness for postsecondary
4	education opportunities.
5	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6	create a task force to evaluate the use of high stakes testing in determinations relative to high
7	school graduation and to submit a written report of findings and conclusions and
8	recommendations, if any, for related legislation to the House Committee on Education and
9	Senate Committee on Education not later than March 1, 2025.
10	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of thirteen
11	members as follows:
12	(1) The governor or his designee.
13	(2) The commissioner of higher education or his designee.
14	(3) The state superintendent of education or his designee.
15	(4) The president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education or his
16	designee.
17	(5) The executive director of the Louisiana School Boards Association or his
18	designee.
19	(6) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents
20	or his designee.
21	(7) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of Principals or his designee.
22	(8) The president of the Louisiana School Counselor Association or his designee.
23	(9) The chairman of the College and Career Readiness Commission or his designee.
24	(10) The president of Council for a Better Louisiana or his designee.
25	(11) The executive director of Stand for Children Louisiana or his designee.
26	(12) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of Public Charter Schools
27	or his designee.
28	(13) A secondary school teacher who teaches a course for which the passage of an
29	end of course exam is required for graduation, to be selected by the state's teacher unions.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that education experts gather to consider the role of

1	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall review existing laws and
2	policies in Louisiana and the national landscape in terms of other states that require
3	minimum standardized test scores for graduation and the appeals process in those states, if
4	any.
5	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consider both the benefits
6	and drawbacks of the assessment system in Louisiana with respect to high school graduation,
7	including the use of LEAP as a tool in measuring student achievement and LEAP's role as
8	a potential barrier to student success and a limitation on truly measuring what they have
9	learned.
10	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members shall serve without compensation
11	except for per diem or expenses to which they may be entitled as members of their
12	organizations.
13	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the total membership shall
14	constitute a quorum of the task force, and any official action taken by the task force shall
15	require an affirmative vote of the majority of the quorum present and voting.
16	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state superintendent of education shall call
17	an organizational meeting of the task force by August 1, 2024, at which the task force shall
18	elect a chairman and any other officers deemed necessary from among the membership.
19	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state Department of Education shall provide
20	staff support to the task force.

## 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 8 Original

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Brass

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