



1 re-create the Louisiana Early Literacy Commission to study and make recommendations on  
2 how best to develop and implement an aligned system that provides effective evidence-based  
3 reading instruction for children from early childhood through third grade.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall examine the impact of the  
5 pandemic on childhood literacy and recommend responses to that impact.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be composed of twenty-  
7 two members as follows:

- 8 (1) The state superintendent of education or his designee.
- 9 (2) The commissioner of higher education or his designee.
- 10 (3) The governor or his designee.
- 11 (4) Two superintendents from school districts that have implemented successful,  
12 evidence-based reading instruction appointed by the State Board of  
13 Elementary and Secondary Education in consultation with the Louisiana  
14 Association of School Superintendents.
- 15 (5) A principal of a school that has implemented successful, evidence-based  
16 reading instruction appointed by the State Board of Elementary and  
17 Secondary Education in consultation with the Louisiana Association of  
18 School Principals.
- 19 (6) A Board of Regents staff member appointed by the commissioner of higher  
20 education.
- 21 (7) A state Department of Education staff member appointed by the state  
22 superintendent of education.
- 23 (8) The executive director of the Children's Cabinet or his designee.
- 24 (9) A parent with a demonstrated commitment to and understanding of evidence-  
25 based reading instruction who is a member of Decoding Dyslexia Louisiana  
26 appointed by the state superintendent of education.
- 27 (10) Two educators with a demonstrated commitment to and understanding of  
28 evidence-based reading instruction appointed by the State Board of  
29 Elementary and Secondary Education in consultation with the state  
30 superintendent of education and the Center for Development and Learning.

- 1           (11) The president of the Louisiana Early Childhood Association or his designee.
- 2           (12) The president of the Louisiana Association of Colleges of Teacher Education  
3                           or his designee.
- 4           (13) The dean of a college of education of a Louisiana postsecondary education  
5                           institution who is a member of Deans for Impact appointed by the  
6                           commissioner of higher education.
- 7           (14) The executive director of the Center for Development and Learning or his  
8                           designee.
- 9           (15) The executive director of the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children or his  
10                           designee.
- 11          (16) A faculty member or researcher from a Louisiana four-year public  
12                           postsecondary education institution who is well-versed in evidence-based  
13                           reading instruction appointed by the commissioner of higher education.
- 14          (17) A faculty member or researcher from a Louisiana four-year nonpublic  
15                           postsecondary education institution who is well-versed in evidence-based  
16                           reading instruction appointed by the Louisiana Association of Independent  
17                           Colleges and Universities.
- 18          (18) A member who is well-versed in evidence-based reading instruction  
19                           appointed by the Louisiana Reading Association.
- 20          (19) A member who is well-versed in written language acquisition and evidence-  
21                           based reading instruction appointed by the Louisiana Speech-Language-  
22                           Hearing Association.
- 23          (20) A teacher who works with students who are deaf or hard of hearing appointed  
24                           by the director of the Louisiana School for the Deaf.

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that vacancies shall be filled in the manner of  
26 original appointment.

27           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the membership shall constitute  
28 a quorum for the transaction of business and an affirmative vote of the quorum present is  
29 required for any official action of the commission.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members shall serve without compensation but  
2 may be reimbursed for expenses as provided by the respective appointing authority.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state superintendent of education and the  
4 commissioner of higher education or their designees shall serve as co-chairmen and the state  
5 Department of Education shall provide staff support to the commission.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall study and make  
7 recommendations relative to improving the reading proficiency of kindergarten through third  
8 grade students and shall:

- 9 (1) Gather and analyze data to determine the degree to which evidence-based  
10 reading is being implemented with fidelity in early childhood care and  
11 education settings and in public schools.
- 12 (2) Conduct an assessment of the number of new educators in classrooms,  
13 including kindergarten through third grade teachers, special education  
14 teachers, and reading specialists who have undergone training in and have  
15 skills in evidence-based reading instruction.
- 16 (3) Make recommendations relative to the following:
  - 17 (a) How colleges of education and alternative certification programs can provide  
18 programs of study on evidence-based reading practices for kindergarten  
19 through third grade teachers, special education teachers, and reading  
20 specialists.
  - 21 (b) How the state Department of Education can ensure that all teacher  
22 preparation programs produce teacher candidates with the competencies  
23 needed to teach evidence-based instruction.
  - 24 (c) How to assist public schools and public school districts in adopting reading  
25 programs that utilize systematic and cumulative evidence-based reading  
26 instruction.
  - 27 (d) How the state Department of Education can equip educators with the  
28 evidence-based competencies and skills needed to ensure the reading  
29 proficiency of kindergarten through third grade students.

1           (e)     How the state Department of Education can equip parents with practical tools  
2                   to address potential literacy loss from the pandemic.

3           (4)     Review the implementation of methods to increase reading proficiency  
4                   among kindergarten through third grade students and establish future  
5                   benchmarks.

6           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall submit written reports of  
7 its findings and recommendations by January 14, 2022, and January 13, 2023, and shall  
8 submit a written report on the status of the implementation of its recommendations and state  
9 Department of Education progress by January 12, 2024, and these reports shall be submitted  
10 to the governor, the House Committee on Education, the Board of Regents, the State Board  
11 of Elementary and Secondary Education, and the Children's Cabinet.

12           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
13 state superintendent of education and the commissioner of higher 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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HR 119 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Hughes

Requests the state Dept. of Education to recreate the La. Early Literacy Commission to study and make recommendations relative to reading instruction.