

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 134

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARROW

STUDENT/LOANS-SCHOLARSHIP: Requests the La. Student Financial Assistance Commission, in consultation with the Board of Regents, to study the feasibility of requiring drug testing for students to qualify for a TOPS award

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission, in consultation  
3 with the Board of Regents, to study the feasibility of requiring drug testing for  
4 students to qualify for a Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) award and  
5 to report its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Education  
6 prior to the convening of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

7 WHEREAS, TOPS is Louisiana's merit-based scholarship program that awards  
8 qualifying students tuition payments for up to eight semesters at eligible Louisiana  
9 postsecondary education institutions; and

10 WHEREAS, the projected number of TOPS recipients for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 is  
11 close to forty-two thousand with a total funding of nearly one hundred seventy million  
12 dollars; and

13 WHEREAS, drug testing is viewed by many as a means to prevent, deter, and detect  
14 drug use among students; and

15 WHEREAS, TOPS awards are funded with taxpayer dollars, therefore it is only  
16 fitting that a study be conducted to determine the feasibility of requiring drug testing for  
17 students to qualify for TOPS in order to ensure that such taxpayer dollars are being used to  
18 help students who have education as a priority and not students who are engaging in habits  
19 or practices that could result in them quitting college and wasting their TOPS award.

1           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
2 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Student Financial  
3 Assistance Commission, in consultation with the Board of Regents, to study the feasibility  
4 of requiring drug testing for students to qualify for a Taylor Opportunity Program for  
5 Students award and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the  
6 House Committee on Education prior to the convening of the 2013 Regular Session of the  
7 Legislature of Louisiana.

8           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
9 chairman of the Louisiana Student Financial Assistance Commission, the executive director  
10 of the office of student financial assistance, the chairman of the Board of Regents, and the  
11 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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Barrow

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Requests the La. Student Financial Assistance Commission, in consultation with the Board of Regents, to study the feasibility of requiring drug testing for students to qualify for a TOPS award and to submit its findings and recommendations to the House education committee prior to the 2013 R.S.