

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONSTON

CURRICULA: Requests public school governing authorities to explore how schools approach teaching mathematics

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request public school governing authorities to explore teaching mathematics  
3 through traditional teacher-directed activities.

4 WHEREAS, present law, R.S. 17:371, provides that the future of Louisiana, its  
5 economy, and the quality of life it provides for its citizens depends on the quality of  
6 education provided to its children; this provision also states a critical element of a proper  
7 education is appropriate and challenging instruction in science and mathematics; and

8 WHEREAS, the 2019 average scale scores from the National Assessment of  
9 Educational Programs ranked Louisiana significantly lower than the national average in both  
10 fourth and eighth grade mathematics; and

11 WHEREAS, many parents of Louisiana public school students believe that the way  
12 mathematics is generally taught downplays practice in favor of emphasizing conceptual  
13 understanding; and

14 WHEREAS, some students learn mathematics better through traditional  
15 teacher-directed activities that emphasize practice; students doing more practice and drilling  
16 in their classrooms could help narrow mathematics achievement gaps; and

17 WHEREAS, it is vital that students learn math facts, especially the foundational  
18 elements of math: addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division; and

19 WHEREAS, more flexibility in how mathematics is taught in school could develop  
20 greater automaticity in students' execution of the four math functions and result in their  
21 being less dependent on calculators in and outside of the classroom.

1           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
2   Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request public school governing authorities  
3   to explore teaching mathematics through traditional teacher-directed activities.

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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 17 Original

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Requests public school governing authorities explore traditional methods of teaching mathematics.