



1           WHEREAS, the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) failed to comply with this  
2 requirement and submitted the current CSBG state plan to DHHS-ACF-OCS despite  
3 knowledge that the previous legislative hearing occurred beyond the three-year mandate, on  
4 August 27, 2007; and

5           WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor cited multiple significant findings  
6 regarding the LWC's administration and implementation deficiencies of the CSBG program  
7 in his most recent audit, dated March 16, 2011; and

8           WHEREAS, the LWC recently returned \$1,413,434 to the federal government that  
9 was intended for investment in CSBG-related initiatives; and

10           WHEREAS, the LWC denied the request of the community action agencies to  
11 implement a performance management system designed to enhance the effectiveness,  
12 efficiency, responsiveness, and accountability of service delivery to the target population;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, the most recent CSBG Annual Report 2009 from the National  
15 Association for State Community Services Programs reflects Louisiana as one of only four  
16 states and Puerto Rico choosing not to invest any discretionary funds allocated to support  
17 their designated priority categories of community action agency expansion, competitive  
18 grants for exemplary programs, training or technical assistance, or statewide programs; and

19           WHEREAS, the CSBG Annual Report 2009 identifies thirty-three authorized staff  
20 positions but only seven full-time equivalent positions; and

21           WHEREAS, DHHS-ACF-OCS, recently published Information Memorandum 123,  
22 which addresses "A New Strategy for Excellence" necessary for the community action  
23 agencies to successfully compete in this new economic climate and for the CSBG to remain  
24 viable and which emphasizes the agency's confidence in state associations serving as the  
25 training or technical assistance administrators to more effectively increase the capacity of  
26 local CSBG-eligible entities to carry out the mandate of the CSBG legislation (Public Law  
27 105-285-October 27, 1998) and ensure results are appropriately measured; and

28           WHEREAS, the Louisiana Association of Community Action Partnerships, Inc., the  
29 statewide association established to provide customized support and services to community  
30 action agencies, has consistently demonstrated success in administering, funding, leveraging

1 community resources, and implementing innovative strategies, such as their nationally  
2 credentialed state-of-the art weatherization training center, which significantly enhances the  
3 quality of life for individuals within the CSBG target population; and

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Association of Community Action Partnerships, Inc., has  
5 consistently requested the opportunity to serve a greater role and assume greater  
6 responsibility in the administration and implementation of CSBG, particularly as it is related  
7 to training and technical assistance, innovative service delivery strategies, targeting  
8 resources based on local needs/outcomes, and risk mitigation to assure appropriate, timely,  
9 and effective expenditure of funds; and

10 WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey  
11 identifies Louisiana's poverty rate as the second-highest among all states in the United  
12 States; and

13 WHEREAS, according to Louisiana Executive Order No. BJ 2008-41, the real  
14 economic costs resulting from a high rate of poverty are borne by Louisiana's overall  
15 population, and negatively affect the state's educational, workforce, and economic  
16 development potential; and

17 WHEREAS, the order also states that the most effective strategies for reducing  
18 poverty are those that help individuals move from poverty to self-sufficiency through  
19 effective educational and workforce supports.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
21 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby direct the Louisiana Workforce Commission to  
22 develop and present the final version of the Community Service Block Grant state plan to  
23 the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs prior to submission to  
24 the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children  
25 and Families, Office of Community Services, for approval.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such plan shall have the purposes of promoting  
27 economy and efficiency in the operation and management of the purposes of the CSBG and  
28 shall include the most recent guidance outlined in Information Memorandum 123 published  
29 by DHHS-ACF-OCS.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LWC shall coordinate with the Louisiana  
2 Association of Community Action Partnerships, Inc., to develop the CSBG state plan, to  
3 develop and implement the most effective service delivery strategy required to meet the  
4 outlined criteria, and to more effectively serve the eligible citizens in need.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the executive director of the LWC shall  
6 coordinate with the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to  
7 provide quarterly reports and such reports shall include the four priority areas identified in  
8 the Information Memorandum 123 and any further guidance from DHHS-ACF-OCS  
9 identifying strategies and directives for successful utilization of the CSBG.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the executive director of the LWC shall submit  
11 reports for the preceding quarter to the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and  
12 Cultural Affairs not later than January twentieth, April twentieth, July twentieth, and  
13 October twentieth of each year, beginning with the report for the first quarter of 2012, and  
14 that a copy thereof shall be submitted to the governor and to the commissioner of  
15 administration.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial  
17 and Cultural Affairs may conduct such hearings as it deems appropriate to review the reports  
18 submitted by the LWC and that the LWC shall furnish the committees any information it  
19 may request concerning the status and effectiveness of the CSBG.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
21 executive director of the LWC.

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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

HR No. 89

Directs the La. Workforce Commission (LWC) to develop and present the final version of the Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) state plan to the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs prior to submission to the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration of Children and Families, Office of Community Services, for approval.

Requires the LWC to coordinate with the La. Association of Community Action Partnerships, Inc., to develop the CSBG state plan.

Requires the LWC to submit quarterly reports on certain priority areas to the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs. Provides dates by which each report is to be submitted.

Provides that the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs may conduct hearings concerning reports from the LWC and the status and effectiveness of the CSBG.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original resolution.

1. Changes the dates by which the required quarterly reports shall be submitted to the MPCA committee.