

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 125

BY SENATOR PETERSON

STUDENTS. Creates a committee to study statutes relative to inappropriate communications between school employees and minor students and to recommend further laws and requirements that should be implemented.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create and provide with respect to a special committee to study and make recommendations with respect to statutes relative to inappropriate communication between school employees and minor students and to recommend to the Senate Judiciary B Committee what requirements for professional development, continuing education or pre-service training might be established relative to the professional, ethical, legal, and boundary rules governing inappropriate communication between school employees and minor students which should be enacted into law.

WHEREAS, several current Louisiana statutes address the crime of prohibited communication between school employees and students; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of Louisiana to protect minor children who attend any school or school institution within the state from inappropriate communication with school employees; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the state to provide clear legal directives, professional development, and continuing education and training for all school employees who come into contact with minor students; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of public policy to prohibit inappropriate communication between school employees and minor students or cultivating an illicit

1 relationship with a minor for the purpose of pursuing a relationship at the age of majority.

2 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby creates
3 a special committee to study inappropriate communication between school employees and
4 minor students and to recommend to the Senate Judiciary B Committee what requirements
5 should be enacted into law to prohibit such inappropriate communication.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the special committee created herein shall be
7 composed of eleven members as follows:

8 (1) A member of the Senate Judiciary B Committee or a designee appointed by the
9 chairman of the committee.

10 (2) A member of the House Judiciary Committee or a designee appointed by he
11 chairman of the committee.

12 (3) Two members of the Louisiana Association of Educators appointed by the
13 president of the association.

14 (4) One member of the faculty of the College of Education at Southern University
15 appointed by the dean of the college.

16 (5) One member of the faculty of the College of Education at Louisiana State
17 University in Baton Rouge appointed by the dean of the college.

18 (6) One member of the Louisiana Children's Defense fund appointed by the executive
19 director of the organization.

20 (7) One parent appointed by the chairman of the Senate Judiciary B Committee.

21 (8) One member of the Louisiana Association of School Superintendents designated
22 by the association.

23 (9) One member of the Louisiana Association of School Administrators designated
24 by the association.

25 (10) The state superintendent of education or his designee.

26 (11) One member representing the Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers
27 designated by the association.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the names of the individuals appointed or
29 designated to serve on the committee shall be submitted to the chairman of the Senate
30 Judiciary B Committee on or before July 1, 2012.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall hold an organizational
2 meeting before August 1, 2012, at the call of the chairman of the Judiciary B Committee.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the special committee shall serve
4 without compensation but may be reimbursed for incurred expenses by the member's
5 appointing authority; that legislative members shall receive such per diem and expenses as
6 is provided for legislators during attendance at committee meetings; and that other members
7 shall be paid by the member's appointing authority in accordance with travel regulations
8 applicable to the respective appointing departments, agencies, or associations.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the special committee should study the
10 feasibility of requiring a signed document which verifies that a school employee has been
11 trained as part of a pre-service program and completed professional development and/or
12 continuing education regarding the legal, ethical, professional and boundary rules governing
13 inappropriate communication between a school employee and student.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the special committee shall make a written
15 report of its findings to the Senate Judiciary B Committee, together with any specific
16 proposals for legislation, not later than November 2, 2012.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
18 Louisiana Association of Educators, College of Education at Southern University, College
19 of Education at LSU, Louisiana Children's Defense Fund, Louisiana Association of School
20 Superintendents, Louisiana Association of School Administrators, the state superintendent
21 of education, and the Louisiana Association of Clinical Social Workers.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

DIGEST

Peterson

SCR No. 125

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