

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY REPRESENTATIVES BARROW, ARMES, CARMODY, CARTER, CHANDLER,  
CHANEY, DOWNS, EDWARDS, HARDY, HOFFMANN, LEGER, AND  
RICHARDSON

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to review, study, and make written recommendations to the House Committee on Education, at least sixty days prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session, relative to all aspects of the state agreeing to participate in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

WHEREAS, the Council of State Governments, in consultation with the United States Department of Defense, Office of Personnel and Readiness, has developed and is promoting a new interstate compact that addresses the educational transition issues of children of military families who are in elementary and secondary schools; and

WHEREAS, supporters of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children have determined that a child of a military family on average faces transition challenges more than twice during high school and that most children of such families will encounter six to nine different school systems from kindergarten through the twelfth grade; and

WHEREAS, supporters of the compact believe that while the United States Armed Forces have taken significant action to ease school transition issues of such children, much remains to be done at the local and state level to be sure that children of military families are provided the same opportunities for educational success as other children and that they are not penalized or delayed in achieving educational goals by inflexible administrative and bureaucratic practices; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children would apply to the children of the following persons:

(1) Active duty members of the uniformed services, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders.

(2) Members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one year after medical discharge or retirement.

(3) Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one year after death; and

WHEREAS, the proposed compact addresses key issues faced by children of military families who are in elementary and secondary schools, including eligibility for services, enrollment, placement, and graduation; and

WHEREAS, the proposed compact additionally provides for a detailed governance structure at both the state and national levels with built-in enforcement and compliance mechanisms.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to review, study, and make written recommendations to the House Committee on Education at least sixty days prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session, relative to all aspects of the state agreeing to participate in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and to the state superintendent of education.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES