

Regular Session, 2008

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 155

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGER AND TRAHAN

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, in consultation with the Orleans Parish School Board, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, the Louisiana School Boards Association, the Louisiana Charter School Association, and other entities deemed appropriate by the board, to study certain issues relative to funding for charter schools; to provide study guidelines; and to provide for a written report on study findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 973 was introduced at the 2008 Regular Session to make certain changes in state law relative to the funding of charter schools; and

WHEREAS, the author of House Bill No. 973, after proper notice to committee members, presented a substitute instrument for consideration by the House Committee on Education on May 7, 2008, to accomplish the purpose of the original house bill and to make additional changes in other provisions of law relative to the use of certain local revenues for computing and allocating the per pupil dollar amount provided to charter schools; and

WHEREAS, after hearing from proponents of the bill, including the Orleans Parish School Board, and opponents, including the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, the committee did not move the instrument forward in the legislative process but did recognize the need for additional information from the state board on a number of issues related to charter school funding.

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, in consultation with the Orleans Parish School Board, the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, the Louisiana School Boards Association, the Louisiana Charter School Association, and other entities deemed appropriate by the board, to study the issues and concerns raised by both the proponents of and opponents to House Bill No. 973 of the

2008 Regular Session and the proposed substitute instrument to such bill and the need for changes in state law and board policy relative to the funding of charter schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall include simulations showing the impact on charter school funding that would occur if the changes to R.S. 17:3995(A) proposed by the substitute instrument to House Bill No. 973 were enacted into law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such study also shall include a review of the differing methods and procedures used to calculate funding for and to distribute such funding to charter schools and the rationales for such differing methods and procedures and determine the need, if any, to continue to use such methods and procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the board shall report in writing on study findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the House Committee on Education at least sixty days prior to the convening of the 2009 Regular Session.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies 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