

1 WHEREAS, familiarity with these principles, equipment, and responsibilities can
2 benefit our society overall and may well reduce the number of gun-related accidents; and

3 WHEREAS, several states, such as Kansas, Iowa, and South Carolina, have instituted
4 programs whereby students in their middle and high schools may opt to meet their firearm
5 and hunter education obligations through their physical education classes; and

6 WHEREAS, Louisiana's firearm and hunter education program requires passage of
7 an online test of the laws and knowledge of firearm equipment; basic shooting skills; basic
8 hunting skills; how to be a safe, responsible, and ethical hunter; and survival skills; followed
9 by four to six hours of hands-on experience in outdoor shooting, blood trailing, tree stand
10 safety, and more survival skills; and

11 WHEREAS, all of these principles and learning experiences are necessary for those
12 people who want to be outdoors hunting but the classes also provide knowledge and skills
13 that are generally useful across the board and are skills and information that can easily and
14 quickly be relayed through voluntary physical education classes; and

15 WHEREAS, since the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is currently statutorily
16 tasked with overseeing the firearm and hunter education programs, having them partner with
17 the Department of Education and the Louisiana School Boards Association allows delivery
18 of training that is consistent and at the core of the department's mission, and enables the
19 department to reach out to the next generation of Louisiana sportsmen and women through
20 programs coordinated throughout the state's schools.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
22 urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to work with the Department of
23 Education and the Louisiana School Boards Association to provide hunter education as a
24 physical education elective in the public high schools.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
26 secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the state superintendent of education,
27 and the executive director of the Louisiana School Boards Association.

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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Bishop

Urges and requests the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries to work with the Dept. of Education and the La. School Boards Association to provide firearm and hunter education as a physical education voluntary elective in public high schools.