A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Education to conduct a survey on any barriers that prevent schools and governing entities from entering into joint-use agreements and issue a report with a plan to promote such agreements.

WHEREAS, joint-use agreements are formal contracts between local governing entities and school districts that allow for joint-use of properties and facilities; and

WHEREAS, examples of joint-use agreements include opening school basketball courts for public use after school hours, allowing school sports teams to use city-owned recreation centers, or letting an intramural team host games on school property; and

WHEREAS, potential benefits of joint-use agreements for schools, governing entities, community organizations, and neighborhood residents include increases in opportunities to be physically active, cost-sharing of school or government property and promotion of social cohesion and neighborhood engagement; and

WHEREAS, during the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature, the legislature enacted Act 351, which limited the liability of schools and governmental entities that enter into joint-use agreements; and

WHEREAS, despite the passage of Act 351, a vast majority of schools still have not utilized joint-use agreements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Education to conduct a survey on the number of joint-use agreements in place in the state and the barriers that prevent schools and governing entities from entering into joint-use agreements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall issue a report that includes a strategic plan to promote and facilitate joint-use agreements across the state to the Legislature and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education no later than February 1, 2015.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the state superintendent of education and the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES