

CHAPTER 70**(HCR 55)**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION directing the Legislative Research Commission to establish a task force to examine the relationship between Kentucky's educational system and the tourism industry relating to annual school calendars.

WHEREAS, the annual economic impact of tourism spending in the Commonwealth is more than \$9.1 billion; and

WHEREAS, over \$942 million in state and local taxes are generated from tourist expenditures; and

WHEREAS, tourism-related businesses collectively represent Kentucky's third largest industry, employing over 164,000 Kentuckians; and

WHEREAS, tourism-related businesses often have a seasonal cycle, with many peaking during summer months; and

WHEREAS, tourism-related businesses often employ seasonal labor, many of whom are students and young adults; and

WHEREAS, seasonal jobs created by tourism-related businesses provide needed income and valuable experience to students and young adults; and

WHEREAS, school opening dates that are scheduled before the third week in August and school closing dates that are scheduled after the second week of June may place certain difficulties upon tourism-related businesses and students working in this business sector;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the Senate concurring therein:

Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission shall establish a task force to examine the effect of school calendars on Kentucky's tourism industry and the potential effect that changes in school calendars may have on Kentucky's educational system. The task force shall be composed of twenty two (22) members, to be approved by the Legislative Research Commission, and shall include:

- (1) The director of the Kentucky Hotel and Lodging Association, or a designee;
- (2) The director of the Kentucky Retail Federation, or a designee;
- (3) The director of the Kentucky Marina Association, or a designee;
- (4) The director of the Kentucky Tourism Council, or a designee, and four (4) members to be appointed by the Kentucky Tourism Council to represent various diverse sectors of the tourism industry;
- (5) The chairperson of the Kentucky School Boards Association, or a designee;
- (6) The president of the Kentucky Education Association, or a designee;
- (7) A representative of the Kentucky Association of School Administrators to be selected by its governing board;
- (8) The president of the Kentucky Parent Teacher Association, or a designee;

- (9) The chairperson of the Kentucky Board of Education, or a designee;
- (10) The Secretary of the Commerce Cabinet, or a designee;
- (11) The Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Parks, or a designee;
- (12) The Commissioner of Education, Kentucky Department of Education, or a designee; and
- (13) Six members of the General Assembly, three members appointed by the President of the Senate, and three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. One of the Senate members shall be appointed co-chair by the President of the Senate, and one of the House of Representative members shall be appointed co-chair by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 2. The task force shall report its findings to the Legislative Research Commission for referral to the appropriate committee or committees no later than December 15, 2005.

Section 3. Provisions of this resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.

Approved March 16, 2005.