

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION to urge the legislative council to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic of scholarships for minority students pursuing higher education in the field of health care.

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**BREAUX**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 121st General Assembly (2020)

## SENATE RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION to urge the legislative council  
2 to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic of  
3 scholarships for minority students pursuing higher education in  
4 the field of health care.

5           *Whereas, Numerous studies have documented that there*  
6 *are significant differences in health outcomes and health care*  
7 *quality among racial and ethnic minority groups in the U.S.;*

8           *Whereas, Health care disparities among minority*  
9 *populations translate into negative health outcomes including;*  
10 *increased mortality rates for African-American women with*  
11 *breast cancer, increased mortality rates for African-American*  
12 *infants, and substantially higher youth mortality rates among*  
13 *Hispanic and African-American children when compared to*  
14 *their Caucasian counterparts;*

15           *Whereas, Disparities in health care pose a moral and*  
16 *ethical dilemma for minority communities in Hoosier society*  
17 *and threaten to hamper efforts to improve the state's health.*  
18 *Missed diagnoses and poor management of chronic conditions*  
19 *often translate into avoidable, higher costs for health care*  
20 *systems;*

2020

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1           *Whereas, Diversity in health care providers improves*  
2           *access to health care for underserved populations, leads to*  
3           *increased racial and ethnic minority patient choice and*  
4           *satisfaction, and diversity in educational environments*  
5           *improves the quality of education for health professionals,*  
6           *which, in turn improves their ability to treat patients from a*  
7           *wide range of cultural and social backgrounds;*

8           *Whereas, Currently in Indiana, minority higher education*  
9           *students can apply for the William A. Crawford Minority*  
10          *Teacher Scholarship for minority students pursuing a career in*  
11          *education and since 2016, Indiana has distributed 327 of these*  
12          *scholarships totaling \$1,007,594;*

13          *Whereas, The Indiana Legislature should study whether a*  
14          *similar scholarship program for minority students seeking*  
15          *degrees in health professions may help to increase diversity and*  
16          *retain health professionals in Indiana; and*

17          *Whereas, Indiana must do more to improve diversity among*  
18          *health professionals: Therefore,*

19                               *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
20                               *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

21           SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate urges the legislative  
22           council to assign to the appropriate study committee the topic  
23           of scholarships for minority students pursuing higher education  
24           in the field of health care.

