

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 216

BY SENATOR MORRELL

FUNDS/FUNDING. Requests the study of possible uses for the money recovered from the opioid lawsuit.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Senate Committee on Finance and the Senate Committee on
3 Revenue and Fiscal Affairs to meet jointly to study and make recommendations with
4 respect to possible uses for the money recovered from the opioid lawsuit by the state
5 of Louisiana.

6 WHEREAS, experts say the United States is in the middle of an opioid epidemic, as
7 more than two million Americans have become dependent on or abuse prescription pain pills
8 and street drugs; and

9 WHEREAS, this epidemic is creating an expensive and deadly public health crisis;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, local governments are spending more on schools, foster care, and other
12 social services because of opioid addiction, and hospitals lose an estimated \$35 billion a year
13 on uncompensated care of addicts; and

14 WHEREAS, one problem yet to be worked out is how state and local governments
15 will document costs that are often shared between them to avoid double-counting, assuming
16 any resolution of the litigation includes such detailed accounting; and

17 WHEREAS, opioid litigation is currently sweeping the nation, including the state of
18 Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, opioid litigation poises the issue of how potential settlement proceeds
2 will be used.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
4 does hereby urge and request the Senate Committee on Finance and the Senate Committee
5 on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs to meet jointly to study and make recommendations with
6 respect to possible uses for the money recovered from the opioid lawsuit by the state of
7 Louisiana and to report the recommendations to the Senate prior to the convening of the
8 2019 Regular Session of the Legislature.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

SR 216 Original

DIGEST
2018 Regular Session

Morrell

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Fiscal Affairs to meet jointly to study and make recommendations with respect to possible
uses for the money recovered from the opioid lawsuit by the state of Louisiana.