

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVES FALCONER AND HUVAL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the division of administration, office of state buildings to produce and post French language versions of any English language signs within the state capitol complex; and to provide for related matters.

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 1:51 Louisiana is officially bilingual, to wit: "Any act or contract made or executed in the French language is as legal and binding upon the parties as if it has been made or executed in the English language"; and

WHEREAS, the heritage of Louisiana's French-speaking people is one of the treasures of the unique and distinctive culture and lifestyle that have flourished in the southern region of our state; and

WHEREAS, providing signage in the French language on capitol grounds would encourage the preservation of south Louisiana's French cultural heritage and would provide an important service to French-speaking residents and visitors alike; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has long sought to preserve and develop the French language and Francophone culture within the state; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has recognized the importance of Louisiana's French heritage in the designation of the Acadiana region and by according official status to the French language; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately one hundred twenty thousand French-speaking citizens and nearly eight hundred thousand residents of French-language heritage in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, to meet the demands of a growing Francophone tourist market, tourism bureaus and commissions throughout the state, particularly in southern Louisiana, have information on tourist sites in both French and English; and

WHEREAS, the division of administration should approve and provide signs to be installed on the state capitol grounds for every English sign that is displayed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the division of administration, office of state buildings to produce and post French language versions of English language signs within the state capitol complex in Baton Rouge.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the division of administration, office of state buildings, may produce and post one-third of the signs requested by this Resolution each year for the next three fiscal years.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, funding for the production and posting of the signs in accordance with this Resolution shall be accomplished through gifts, grants, donations, or any other funding sources not otherwise prohibited by law.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, translation services for the signs may be provided by the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE