

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 69

BY REPRESENTATIVE WRIGHT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Creates a task force to study how to best capitalize on Louisiana's international trade potential

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the House Committee on Commerce, or a subcommittee thereof, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs, or a subcommittee thereof, to meet and to function as a joint committee to study what legislative measures should be taken to best capitalize on Louisiana's competitive advantage in international trade by 2030 and to report the findings of the joint committee to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Louisiana contains three of the most important waterways in the world: the Mississippi River, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and the Calcasieu Ship Channel; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's port and rail connections are considered among the top global freight transportation hubs; and

WHEREAS, international trade, including exports and imports, supports more than one in five jobs; and

WHEREAS, more than ninety-five percent of the world's population and eighty percent of the world's purchasing power lie outside of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the future economic growth and jobs for Louisiana and America increasingly depend on expanding U.S. trade and investment opportunities in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, export growth increases jobs by generating new business for Louisiana's manufacturers, service providers, and farmers; and

1 WHEREAS, imports lower prices and increase choices for Louisiana companies and
2 families; and

3 WHEREAS, trade-supported jobs are not just at companies that export and import;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, trade supports higher wages for workers and lower costs for companies
6 and consumers, providing them with more money to spend on other things; and

7 WHEREAS, this spending supports additional jobs throughout the economy in
8 sectors like entertainment, education, and construction; and

9 WHEREAS, Louisiana ranks among the top U.S. state exporters in various industries,
10 including grain and oilseed milling products, farmed fish, petroleum and coal products, and
11 basic chemicals; and

12 WHEREAS, a purposeful and strategic approach to trade regulation, agreements, and
13 investments would benefit Louisiana's economic future and the future of Louisiana families.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15 direct the House Committee on Commerce, or a subcommittee thereof, and the Senate
16 Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs, or a
17 subcommittee thereof, to meet and to function as a joint committee to study the best
18 international trade practices to implement in order to capitalize on Louisiana's competitive
19 advantage in international trade and to report the findings of the joint committee to the
20 legislature prior to the convening of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature of
21 Louisiana.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana further directs the
23 joint committee to solicit input, information, data, recommendations, and advice from the
24 following agencies and organizations:

25 (1) The Department of Economic Development.

26 (2) The Department of Transportation and Development.

27 (3) Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.

28 (4) The Committee of 100.

29 (5) The Louisiana Chemical Association.

30 (6) Ports Association of Louisiana.

- 1 (7) Louisiana Association of Waterways and Shipyards.
- 2 (8) Louisiana Rail Association.
- 3 (9) Louisiana Motor Transportation Association.
- 4 (10) Associated Branch Pilots.
- 5 (11) Crescent River Port Pilots.
- 6 (12) Lake Charles Pilots.
- 7 (13) New Orleans-Baton Rouge Steamship Pilots Association.
- 8 (14) World Trade Center-New Orleans.
- 9 (15) Gulf Intracoastal Canal Association.
- 10 (16) Any persons, agencies, entities, or stakeholders that it deems necessary to fulfill
- 11 the purposes of the joint committee.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 69 Engrossed	2020 Regular Session	Wright
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Directs the House Committee on Commerce and Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to meet and function as a joint committee to study the best practices to implement in order to capitalize on Louisiana's international trade potential.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

- 1. Add six groups to the list of organizations and agencies from which the committee is to solicit input, information, data, recommendations, and advice when conducting the study.