HLS 22RS-1930 ENGROSSED

2022 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 70

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

ATTORNEYS: Requests the La. Supreme Court to implement a minimum continuing legal education requirement for district attorneys and judges on the topic of domestic violence

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Louisiana Supreme Court to adopt minimum continuing legal
3	education requirements of certain judges, district attorneys, and assistant district
4	attorneys on the topic of domestic violence.
5	WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor identified challenges Louisiana faces
6	in its efforts to address domestic violence in its December 16, 2021, performance audit
7	entitled "Challenges in Louisiana's Efforts to Address Domestic Violence"; and
8	WHEREAS, one such stated challenge is that "[w]hile state law requires law
9	enforcement training on domestic violence, other entities involved in addressing domestic
10	violence are not required to have such training. For example, there is no requirement for
11	judges and district attorneys to receive domestic violence training"; and
12	WHEREAS, the audit goes on to state that "[b]ecause domestic violence is a
13	complicated, dynamic issue, education on current best practices could improve how the
14	judicial branch and law enforcement protect victims and hold perpetrators accountable"; and
15	WHEREAS, continuing legal education requirements of attorneys, including judges,
16	district attorneys, and assistant district attorneys, are imposed by the supreme court.
17	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
18	urge and request the Louisiana Supreme Court to impose a minimum of four hours of
19	continuing legal education on the topic of domestic violence to be completed by district

1 court, family court, and juvenile court judges, district attorneys, and assistant district

- 2 attorneys as follows:
- Beginning January 1, 2023, each district court, family court, and juvenile court judge
- 4 shall receive a minimum of four hours of training on domestic violence, which shall include
- 5 but not be limited to the following topics:
- 6 (1) Dynamics of domestic violence.
- 7 (2) Neurobiology of trauma and its implications for victim and witness
- 8 communication.
- 9 (3) Strangulation.
- 10 (4) Orders of Protection.
- 11 (5) Domestic Abuse Intervention Programming standards and legal requirements.
- 12 (6) Available support services for victims.
- 13 (7) Applicable state and federal domestic violence laws.
- Beginning January 1, 2023, each district attorney and assistant district attorney shall
- 15 complete a minimum of four hours of training on domestic violence, which shall include but
- 16 not be limited to the following topics:
- 17 (1) Dynamics of domestic violence.
- 18 (2) Neurobiology of trauma and its implications for victim communication.
- 19 (3) Strangulation.
- 20 (4) Evidence-based prosecution.
- 21 (5) State and federal domestic violence related firearm prohibitions.
- 22 (6) Victim rights.
- 23 (7) Applicable state and federal domestic violence laws.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
- 25 Supreme Court of Louisiana.

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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)]

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Freeman

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