

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONDS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the secretary of state to produce and publish an annual report of all voting complaints.

WHEREAS, the Department of State's election compliance unit was created by state law in 2004 as a means to respond to complaints related to elections; and

WHEREAS, the elections compliance unit conducts investigations into allegations of election irregularities, but it does not have the legal authority to prosecute complaints or issue legal penalties; and

WHEREAS, if the elections compliance unit finds that a criminal act has been committed, it forwards the complaint to the appropriate prosecutorial authority; and

WHEREAS, members of the public can file an election-related complaint by calling the complaint hotline provided on the Department of State's website; and

WHEREAS, local election officials can report instances of election irregularities that they have personally witnessed or that have come to their attention through complaints received at the parish level; and

WHEREAS, the Department of State's elections compliance unit received five hundred one election-related complaints from 2017 through 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor's Office conducted a performance audit of Louisiana's election processes and procedures to determine whether existing processes are adequate; and

WHEREAS, the legislative auditor found that the Department of State could improve its complaints process by consistently categorizing complaints, tracking the status of complaints, and making this information available to the public.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the secretary of state to add complaints received by the elections compliance unit, sorted by the type of complaint, to his annual performance indicator reporting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of state.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE