

2022 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 217

BY SENATOR BARROW

HOUSING. Continues the Task Force on Prevention of Human Degradation and Exploitation of Vulnerable Individuals in Community-Based Residential Settings.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To continue and provide for the Task Force on Prevention of Human Degradation and  
3 Exploitation of Vulnerable Individuals in Community-Based Residential Settings.

4 WHEREAS, through Senate Resolution No. 23 of the 2018 Second Extraordinary  
5 Session, the Senate formed a task force to study and make recommendations relative to  
6 current and proposed regulations necessary to protect nonrelated individuals residing in a  
7 single dwelling from a property owner or landlord who acts without regard to basic rights  
8 and responsibilities owed to his tenants; and

9 WHEREAS, after months of research and numerous public meetings, Senate Bill No.  
10 218 of the 2019 Regular Session of the Legislature was filed to establish a minimum  
11 standard for shared housing establishments, which included certain residency prohibitions  
12 that were suggested to be in violation of the Fair Housing Act, 42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.; and

13 WHEREAS, in an effort to clarify that Senate Bill No. 218 was not intended to  
14 discriminate against any resident, it was amended in the Senate Committee on Health and  
15 Welfare to establish a rental housing registry and apply to all rental properties regardless of  
16 the unique characteristics of its residents; and

17 WHEREAS, this equal application to all rental properties drew insurmountable  
18 opposition from landlords and property owners who would be subject to the rental housing

1 registry; and

2 WHEREAS, after meeting with the opposition and sincerely attempting to address  
3 expressed concerns, Senate Bill No. 218 was amended on the Senate floor to limit the  
4 requirement of the rental housing registry to single-family dwellings that were rented to four  
5 or more unrelated adults, to exempt apartments, complexes, and residential dwellings  
6 licensed by the Louisiana Department of Health and the Louisiana Department of Children  
7 and Family Services, and to place all authority for implementation and enforcement with the  
8 parish and municipal governing bodies to be accomplished by local ordinance; and

9 WHEREAS, even with these significant changes to Senate Bill No. 218, the  
10 opposition was unwavering, and due to the short nature of a regular fiscal legislative session,  
11 time did not allow for further negotiation; and

12 WHEREAS, the Task Force on Prevention of Human Degradation and Exploitation  
13 of Vulnerable Individuals in Community-Based Residential Settings was continued and  
14 otherwise provided for by Senate Resolution No. 203 of the 2019 Regular Session of the  
15 Legislature, recreated by Senate Resolution No. 52 of the 2020 Second Extraordinary  
16 Session of the Legislature, and continued by Senate Resolution No. 120 of the 2021 Regular  
17 Session of the Legislature; and

18 WHEREAS, the Task Force on Prevention of Human Degradation and Exploitation  
19 of Vulnerable Individuals in Community-Based Residential Setting seeks to conclude the  
20 study and make recommendations to the Senate with a legal and fair solution that works for  
21 all to the problem of unregulated rental housing.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
23 does hereby continue and provide with respect to the Task Force on Prevention of Human  
24 Degradation and Exploitation of Vulnerable Individuals in Community-Based Residential  
25 Settings created by Senate Resolution No. 23 of the 2018 Second Extraordinary Session of  
26 the Legislature, continued by Senate Resolution No. 203 of the 2019 Regular Session of the  
27 Legislature, recreated by Senate Resolution No. 52 of the 2020 Second Extraordinary  
28 Session of the Legislature, and continued by Senate Resolution No. 120 of the 2021 Regular  
29 Session of the Legislature.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the current members of the task force shall

1 continue with their service and shall be joined by the following new members:

2 (1) The president of the Louisiana Hospital Association or his designee.

3 (2) The executive director of the Voice of the Experienced or his designee.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall continue to conduct the study  
5 with the same focus as set forth in its original charge and continued in the subsequent Senate  
6 Resolutions.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall meet as often as is necessary  
8 to fulfill its mission, and shall submit a report, including any legislative proposal, to the  
9 Louisiana Senate on or before March 1, 2023.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on July 1, 2023.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
12 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, the state health officer, the director of the  
13 health standards section within the Louisiana Department of Health, the director of the adult  
14 protective services section within the Louisiana Department of Health, the secretary of the  
15 Department of Children and Family Services, the attorney general, the state fire marshal, the  
16 executive director of the Louisiana Municipal Association, the executive director of the  
17 Police Jury Association of Louisiana, the executive director of the Advocacy Center of  
18 Louisiana, the executive director of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, the executive  
19 director of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, the president of the Building  
20 Officials Association of Louisiana, the executive director of the Apartment Association of  
21 Louisiana, Inc., the executive director of the Louisiana Home Builders Association, the  
22 executive director of the Louisiana Housing Corporation, the executive director of the  
23 Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center, the president of the Louisiana Hospital  
24 Association, and the executive director of the Voice of the Experienced.

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

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