

1 WHEREAS, the encampments create fire hazards due to unsafe fires used for
2 cooking and heating; and

3 WHEREAS, there are chronic public intoxication issues associated with the
4 encampments; and

5 WHEREAS, the unseemly area of the encampments have a negative impact on
6 tourism and on businesses in the area; and

7 WHEREAS, these encampments occupy public parking spaces and interfere with
8 commerce in the area; and

9 WHEREAS, these encampments present a myriad of other real concerns to public
10 safety.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
12 urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development work with other
13 agencies and interest groups to discuss potential solutions and address the public safety
14 concerns regarding homeless people in the New Orleans metropolitan area residing within
15 interstate rights of way.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation shall consult
17 with, and receive advice from, the following entities:

18 (1) The New Orleans Police Department.

19 (2) The Department of Public Health.

20 (3) Louisiana Balance of State Continuum of Care.

21 (4) The Department of Environmental Quality.

22 (5) The Louisiana State Police.

23 (6) The Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care.

24 (7) The Department of Veterans Affairs' Homeless Program.

25 (8) The New Orleans Office of Homeless Services and Strategy.

26 (9) The Housing Authority of New Orleans.

27 (10) UNITY of Greater New Orleans.

28 (11) The Covenant House New Orleans.

29 (12) Travelers Aid Society of Greater New Orleans.

30 (13) New Orleans & Company.

1 (14) The New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

2 (15) The Historic Faubourg Tremé Association.

3 (16) The Port of New Orleans.

4 (17) Odyssey House of Louisiana.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and
6 Development shall provide a written report of its progress to the president of the Louisiana
7 Senate and the speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives no later than March 1,
8 2024.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
10 secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.

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 73 Reengrossed

2023 Regular Session

Knox

Urges and requests that the Dept. of Transportation and Development address the issue of encampments under I-10 overpasses in the New Orleans area by working with other agencies and interest groups to discuss potential solutions and address the public safety concerns regarding homeless people residing within the interstate rights of way. Requires the Dept. of Transportation and Development to provide a written report of its progress to the Senate and the House of Representatives by March 1, 2024.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Remove the request that the Dept. of Transportation and Development and other agencies and interest groups remove and prevent homeless people from residing within interstate rights of way in the New Orleans metropolitan area and add that they discuss potential solutions and address the public safety concerns regarding homeless people residing within the interstate rights of way.
2. Add the Port of New Orleans to the entities the Dept. of Transportation and Development must consult with relative to preventing the impact of homelessness on interstate rights of way.
3. Remove the request that the Dept. of Transportation and Development take necessary action to resolve the humanitarian concerns caused by the encampments.
4. Remove the request that the department consider alternative housing for those displaced people living in encampments.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Clarify the resolution is applicable to the New Orleans metropolitan area.
2. Add Odyssey House of Louisiana to the list of entities with which the Dept. of Transportation and Development is to consult relative to preventing the impact of homelessness on interstate rights of way.