

1 elections, with recent local elections drawing as low as six and one-tenths percent of eligible
2 voters; and

3 WHEREAS, voter turnout has been proven to be at least two times higher when local
4 elections coincide with a larger election; and

5 WHEREAS, consolidating elections makes it easier for voters to understand
6 registration deadlines, absentee ballot deadlines, early voting options, voting locations, and
7 voter eligibility; and

8 WHEREAS, consolidation would likely increase voter turnout, make it easier to keep
9 voters informed, save the state and local governments millions of dollars, and foster better
10 voting habits among eligible voters; and

11 WHEREAS, Louisiana is one of five states that elect their state officials outside of
12 federal election years; and

13 WHEREAS, Louisiana's state officials are at risk of not proportionally representing
14 constituents because of low voter turnout during elections held outside of the gubernatorial
15 or federal election years; and

16 WHEREAS, multiple states, including several southern states, have introduced
17 legislation providing for consolidation of elections or have conducted studies on the subject
18 matter, and it would be appropriate for Louisiana to take similar efforts.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
20 establish the Elections Consolidation Task Force to study the consolidation and streamlining
21 of Louisiana's elections.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the primary objective of the task force is to
23 deliberate all applicable facts, circumstances, policies, and procedures that contribute to
24 Louisiana's confusing and protracted elections calendar and to present the legislature with
25 recommendations to consolidate the number of elections.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the task force shall be as
27 follows:

28 (1) The speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee.

29 (2) The president of the Senate or his designee.

30 (3) The secretary of state or his designee.

1 (4) The commissioner of elections or his designee.

2 (5) The president of the board of the Louisiana Registrars of Voters Association or
3 his designee.

4 (6) The president of the board of the Louisiana Municipal Association or his
5 designee.

6 (7) The president of the executive board of the Policy Jury Association of Louisiana
7 or his designee.

8 (8) The president of the executive committee of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association
9 or his designee.

10 (9) The president of the board of directors of the Louisiana District Attorneys
11 Association or his designee.

12 (10) The president of the Louisiana District Judge's Association or his designee.

13 (11) The chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court or his designee.

14 (12) A representative of the Power Coalition for Equity and Justice.

15 (13) A representative of the Pelican Institute for Public Policy.

16 (14) A representative of the Public Affairs Research Council.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that at its first meeting, which shall be called by the
18 speaker of the House of Representatives no later than September 1, 2023, the task force shall
19 elect from among its members a chairperson, who shall preside over the task force.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve
21 without compensation.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the total membership shall
23 constitute a quorum of the task force and that any official action by the task force shall
24 require an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum present and voting.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate shall provide staffing for the task
26 force.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall meet as frequently as it
28 deems necessary for the timely performance of its duties.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Elections Consolidation Task Force shall
30 submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana

1 no later than thirty days prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session of the
2 Legislature.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each
4 organization represented by a member of the task force.

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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2023 Regular Session

Beaulieu

Creates a task force to study the consolidation of La.'s elections and to submit a written report of the task force findings and recommendations to the legislature no later than 30 days prior to the convening of the 2024 R.S.