

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 196

BY REPRESENTATIVE LANDRY

A RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the continuation of the Safe Alternatives to Segregation Task Force established by House Resolution No. 127 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature, to provide for the membership, powers, and duties of the task force, and to require the task force to report its findings.

WHEREAS, in the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature the Safe Alternatives to Segregation Task Force was established to, among other things, review and receive information regarding the current regulations and policies of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections on the use of segregation and safe alternatives to segregation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to House Resolution No. 127 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature, the task force began its work in November 2021 and based on the information, presentations, and subcommittee meetings with and from various stakeholders, the task force is working to finalize its report to the Legislature prior to January 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, based on the work of the task force and its subcommittees, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections published revisions to the Disciplinary Matrix and Rulebook; and

WHEREAS, the task force recommends that legislation be introduced in the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature to continue the work of the task force related to its original scope.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representative of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the continuation of the Safe Alternatives to Segregation Task Force established by House Resolution No. 127 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the following members:

(1) The chairman of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, or his designee.

(2) The author of House Bill No. 68 from the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature, or his designee.

(3) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, or his designee.

(4) The chief of operations of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, or his designee.

(5) The executive counsel of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, or his designee.

(6) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, or his designee.

(7) The mental health director of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

(8) A psychiatrist from the Department of Public Safety and Corrections appointed by the secretary of the department.

(9) A representative from the Louisiana Stop Solitary Coalition.

(10) The state director of Right on Crime for the state of Louisiana, or his designee.

(11) A representative from the Louisiana Mental Health Coalition.

(12) The director of the Mental Health Unit of the Orleans Parish public defender office.

(13) Two formerly incarcerated persons who have experienced solitary confinement or a family member of someone who has experienced solitary confinement.

(14) A mental health professional who has treated formerly incarcerated persons who have experienced solitary confinement or persons with serious mental illnesses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the scope of work and mission of the task force set forth in House Resolution No. 127 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature are continued to recommend any legislation or funds necessary in the budget for the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the author of House Resolution No. 127 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature or the Louisiana Stop Solitary Coalition, or both, shall provide staff support to the commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may request and collect relevant and necessary data, as well as any information to accomplish its purposes from state and local governmental agencies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the entities from which such information and data is requested may, to the extent feasible, provide such information and data to the task force at no cost.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall prepare and submit a report of its findings and policy recommendations to the governor and the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana prior to January 31, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each of the task force members, the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library, and the appointing entities provided in this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Safe Alternatives to Segregation Task Force shall submit one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this Resolution to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES