

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS JOHNSON

PARISHES: Requests the governing authority of Concordia Parish to do a feasibility study regarding the establishment of a new form of parish government

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the governing authority of Concordia Parish to conduct a feasibility
3 study regarding the establishment of a new form of parish government that includes
4 a parish president.

5 WHEREAS, the most common form of government for parishes in the state of
6 Louisiana is the police jury system; and

7 WHEREAS, R.S. 33:1221 generally requires every parish governing authority in the
8 state of Louisiana organized under the police jury system form of government to establish,
9 by ordinance, the size of their governing bodies; and

10 WHEREAS, R.S. 33:1221 also provides that no police jury shall have fewer than five
11 members nor more than fifteen members, or the number of members authorized for that jury
12 on or before May 13, 1974, whichever is greater; however parishes with a population of ten
13 thousand persons or less may establish the size of the body at not fewer than three members;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, police jurors are elected for terms of four years; and

16 WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 7 of the state constitution provides that parishes
17 governed by a police jury system shall have the powers authorized by the constitution or by
18 law and are specifically authorized to exercise any power and perform any function
19 necessary, requisite, or proper for the management of their affairs, not denied by their charter
20 or by general law, if a majority of the electors voting in an election held for that purpose vote

1 in favor of the proposition that the respective governing authority may exercise such general
2 powers; and

3 WHEREAS, R.S. 33:1236 provides generally for the powers of parish governing
4 authorities, including but not limited to: making regulations for their own government;
5 appointing all officers necessary to carry into execution the parish regulations; making and
6 repairing roads, bridges, causeways, dikes, dams, levees, and highways; providing support
7 for the poor and necessitous within their respective parishes by taxation or otherwise;
8 passing ordinances and regulations which they deem necessary to govern and regulate the
9 laying out of subdivisions, resubdivisions, roads, streets, alleys, ways, subways, viaducts,
10 bridges, parks, parkways, boulevards, playgrounds, community centers, and other public
11 buildings, grounds, or improvements; and

12 WHEREAS, Concordia Parish is currently governed by a police jury form of
13 government, and the governing authority is comprised of nine members; and

14 WHEREAS, discussions have taken place regarding the establishment of a new form
15 of government that will provide more representation for the people of the parish and enhance
16 the operations of and create more efficiency for the members of the governing authority and
17 the administrative staff of the parish; and

18 WHEREAS, suggestions have been made regarding the establishment of a new form
19 of government, including the adoption of a home rule charter and the election of a parish
20 president; and

21 WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 5 of the state constitution authorizes parishes to draft,
22 adopt, or amend a home rule charter and to appoint a commission to prepare and propose a
23 charter or an alternate charter, or to call an election to elect such a commission; and

24 WHEREAS, Article 6, Section 5 of the state constitution requires the parish
25 governing authority to call an election to elect such a commission when presented with a
26 petition signed by not less than ten percent of the electors or ten thousand electors,
27 whichever is fewer, who live within the boundaries of the affected subdivision, as certified
28 by the registrar of voters; and

1 WHEREAS, R.S. 33:1395 et seq. provides additional procedures regarding the
2 adoption of a home rule charter and the establishment of a home rule charter commission;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the residents of Concordia Parish have proper
5 representation in the affairs of the parish and that the parish government is operated in the
6 most efficient manner.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
8 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the governing authority of Concordia
9 Parish to conduct a feasibility study regarding the establishment of a new form of parish
10 government that includes administration by a parish president.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
12 governing authority of Concordia Parish and the members of the Concordia Parish legislative
13 delegation.

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)]

HR 9 Engrossed

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Travis Johnson

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