

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 139

BY SENATOR BARROW

AIRCRAFT/AVIATION. Requests the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Airport Commission to study the feasibility of performing additional functions of economic and industrial development.

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request Baton Rouge Airport Commission to study the feasibility of performing additional functions of economic and industrial development.

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge Airport (BTR) is one of the economic pillars of the community, providing over four thousand direct and indirect jobs and over one billion in annual economic output; and

WHEREAS, BTR operates as a self-sufficient enterprise fund, produces its own revenues for operations, and does not use local tax revenues; and

WHEREAS, BTR already provides functions of economic development such as facilitating tourism, trade, connectivity, generating economic growth, providing jobs, improving living standards, providing a lifeline for remote communities, and enabling a rapid response when disasters occur.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Commissioners of the Greater Baton Rouge Airport District to study the feasibility of performing additional functions of economic and industrial development including but not be limited to the following:

(1) Public relations, advertising, marketing, and providing and disseminating information.

- 1 (2) Government relations, ombudsman, and government liaison.
- 2 (3) Financial and financing assistance.
- 3 (4) Tax abatement.
- 4 (5) Planning and coordination for economic development and resource utilization,
5 including such functions as industrial and economic research and industrial programming
6 and solicitation.
- 7 (6) Industrial training, technical assistance, and technology transfer.
- 8 (7) The use of public and other legal powers to facilitate development.
- 9 (8) Promoting transfer mechanisms to take ideas from their point of origin and
10 development to commercially successful utilization by local enterprises.
- 11 (9) Fostering entrepreneurial activity for the airport located in the parish.
- 12 (10) Promoting the development of new products, processes, or services or new uses
13 for existing products, processes, or services manufactured or marketed for the airport located
14 in the parish.
- 15 (11) Supporting market research aimed at identifying new markets for local or
16 regional products and processes, including international markets; determining the
17 characteristics, needs, and preferences of those markets; and developing new marketing
18 techniques to exploit those markets.
- 19 (12) Fostering and supporting economic and industrial development and education
20 in cooperation with private business enterprises, financial institutions, educational
21 institutions, nonprofit institutions and organizations, state government and political
22 subdivisions of the state, the federal government, and other organizations or persons
23 concerned with research, development, education, commercial application, and economic
24 or industrial development in ways which increase the economic base of the airport located
25 in the parish.
- 26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways
27 and Development shall review the structural setup of the Board of Commissioners of the
28 Greater Baton Rouge Airport District to determine if it is feasible to meet the demands of
29 growth and development.
- 30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the commission shall develop a plan indicating its

1 ability to acquire, construct, improve, maintain, equip, operate, regulate, and protect
 2 economic development facilities, including the acquisition, maintenance and operation of
 3 buildings and other facilities, and the purchase of and sale of supplies, goods, and
 4 commodities as an incident to the operation of its properties. The plan should further
 5 establish the commission's ability to acquire and maintain economic development facilities
 6 in, over, and upon any public waters of this state, any submerged lands under such public
 7 water; and to construct and maintain buildings, landing floats, causeways, roadways, and
 8 bridges for approaches to or connecting with any such facilities, and landing floats and
 9 breakwaters for the protection thereof.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
 11 does hereby urge and request the Baton Rouge Airport to prepare and deliver the report to
 12 the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, the Senate
 13 Committee on Finance, and to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required
 14 by R.S. 24:771 and 772, no later than September 1, 2024.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
 16 Board of Commissioners of the Greater Baton Rouge Airport District.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Archana D. Cadge.

	DIGEST	
SR 139 Original	2024 Regular Session	Barrow

Urge and request Baton Rouge Airport Commission to study the feasibility of performing additional functions of economic and industrial development.