

1 found that current methods of funding many components of the criminal justice system result
2 in unpredictable revenue streams, underfunded budgets, and severe restrictions of essential
3 services; and

4 WHEREAS, participants in the 2014 summit recommended that in order to resolve
5 unpredictability, inadequacy, and inefficiency of funding for essential components for the
6 criminal justice system, the Legislature of Louisiana should request a study of the possibility
7 of instituting a statewide general fund for criminal justice agencies; and

8 WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon this state to develop and implement the changes
9 necessary to optimize public safety resources and make strategic investments across our
10 public safety system; and

11 WHEREAS, holding public safety paramount and considering the issues that impact
12 diverse stakeholders of the criminal justice system, this legislature is dedicated to making
13 a comprehensive set of reforms that yield a more fair and effective criminal justice system;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has the power to authorize and direct the
16 study of and make recommendations for the revision of laws impacting our criminal justice
17 agencies.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
19 establish the Criminal Justice Funding Commission to study and make recommendations to
20 the legislature for the development of a more unified, stable, and statewide funding structure
21 for the fair, efficient, and effective administration of the criminal justice system.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be comprised of the
23 following members:

24 (1) One member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate, or the
25 member's designee, who shall serve as co-chairperson of the commission.

26 (2) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the
27 House, or the member's designee, who shall serve as co-chairperson of the commission.

28 (3) A district attorney appointed by the Louisiana District Attorneys Association,
29 or his designee.

1 (4) A public defender appointed by the Louisiana Public Defender Board, or his
2 designee.

3 (5) A person selected by the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and
4 Corrections, or his designee.

5 (6) A person selected by the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association, or his designee.

6 (7) The legislative auditor, or his designee.

7 (8) A member of the Louisiana Sentencing Commission to be selected by the
8 chairman of the Louisiana Sentencing Commission, or his designee.

9 (9) A person appointed by the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court, or his
10 designee.

11 (10) A sheriff appointed by the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, or his designee.

12 (11) The superintendent of state police, or his designee.

13 (12) A person appointed by the governor, or his designee.

14 (13) The president of the Louisiana State Bar Association, or his designee.

15 (14) An attorney appointed by the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense
16 Lawyers, or his designee.

17 (15) A person appointed by the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, or his
18 designee.

19 (16) A person appointed by the Pelican Institute for Public Policy, or his designee.

20 (17) A person appointed by Louisiana Budget Project, or his designee.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the development of these recommendations,
22 the commission shall review how other states fund their core criminal justice functions
23 including but not limited to law enforcement, corrections, prosecution, public defense, and
24 the courts; how Louisiana currently funds the criminal justice system; and how Louisiana
25 could potentially restructure its current funding scheme to implement evidence-based, best
26 practices.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall submit its
28 recommendations to the House and Senate committees on the administration of criminal
29 justice, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the president of the Senate by
30 February 1, 2016.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
2 to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the Senate.

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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2015 Regular Session

Lopinto

Creates the Criminal Justice Funding Commission made up of a representative from all of the following entities to study and make recommendations to the legislature for the development of a more unified, stable, and statewide funding structure for the fair, efficient, and effective administration of the criminal justice system: La. Senate, La. House of Representatives, La. District Attorneys Assoc., La. Public Defender Board, Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections, La. Clerks of Court Assoc., legislative auditor, La. Sentencing Commission, La. Supreme Court, La. Sheriffs' Assoc., state police, governor's office, La. State Bar Assoc., La. Assoc. of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Public Affairs Research Council of La., Pelican Institute for Public Policy, and La. Budget Project.