

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 219

BY REPRESENTATIVES BARRAS, MIGUEZ, TERRY LANDRY, AND HUVAL AND
SENATORS ALLAIN AND MILLS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request representatives from the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission, the office of the sheriff of Iberia Parish, the office of the mayor of the city of New Iberia, and the governing authority of the city of New Iberia to meet with the members of the governing board of the Louisiana Sugar Cane Festival and Fair to discuss the services that are traditionally provided during the festival and fair, including security, traffic control, and sanitation, and the costs associated with those services, to develop a list of public and private entities that are available to provide such services in the future and the proposed fees to be charged by such entities, and to provide for a written report of findings and recommendations to the legislative delegation representing Iberia Parish no later than September 1, 2015.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Sugar Cane Festival and Fair, which has been hosted by community leaders in the city of New Iberia since 1937, is one of the oldest agricultural fairs and harvest festivals in the state honoring Louisiana's sugar industry; and

WHEREAS, the five-day event includes activities that showcase sugar cane machinery and production equipment, and local museum exhibits emphasize the importance of sugar cane to the region; and

WHEREAS, although the five days of festivities provide an economic contribution to the Acadiana region in excess of two million dollars, the costs of services provided during the festival and fair, including costs for security, traffic control, and sanitation, continue to escalate and may eventually threaten the financial stability of the event; and

WHEREAS, the governing board of Louisiana Sugar Cane Festival and Fair, which consists of members representing sugar producing parishes across Louisiana, should meet with local parish representatives to discuss the costs of services provided during the event and to map out a strategy to reduce unnecessary expenditures associated with the event in order to enhance its economic contribution throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the governing board of the Louisiana Sugar Cane Festival and Fair, along with local government representatives, should make every effort to place the festival and fair on sound financial footing in order to ensure the continued celebration of Louisiana's sugar industry.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request representatives from the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission, the office of the sheriff of Iberia Parish, the office of the mayor of the city of New Iberia, and the governing authority of the city of New Iberia to meet with the members of the governing board of the Louisiana Sugar Cane Festival and Fair to discuss the services that are traditionally provided during the festival and fair, including security, traffic control, and sanitation, and the costs associated with those services, to develop a list of public and private entities that are available to provide such services in the future and the proposed fees to be charged by such entities, and to provide for a written report of findings and recommendations to the legislative delegation representing Iberia Parish no later than September 1, 2015.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the sheriff of Iberia Parish, the mayor of the city of New Iberia, the governing authority of the city of New Iberia, and the director of the Iberia Parish Tourist Commission.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE