

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 148

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

A RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the issue of adding the crimes of assault on a school teacher (R.S. 14:38.2) and battery of a school teacher (R.S. 14:34.3) to the offenses enumerated as crimes of violence in R.S. 14:2(B) and to report its findings to the Legislature of Louisiana, including any recommendations for legislative changes as are appropriate, prior to the convening of the 2016 Regular Session.

WHEREAS, Louisiana law provides for the crimes of assault on a school teacher (R.S. 14:38.2) and battery of a school teacher (R.S. 14:34.3) and further provides for a list of offenses that are enumerated as crimes of violence in R.S. 14:2(B); and

WHEREAS, an effective justice system should contain mechanisms that enable victims of violent crimes to be informed as to the whereabouts of their attacker and the outcome of any adjudication or hearing related to the offense; and

WHEREAS, a teacher or other school employee who has been a victim of a violent act by a student should not have to be subjected to that student's continued presence on campus; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature recognizes the need for teachers and other school employees to feel safe and secure in their place of employment; and

WHEREAS, the criminal justice system is complex, and any changes to the law would benefit from careful and comprehensive study, taking into account the needs of victims, the rights of the accused, and the important public interests that underlie the criminal justice system.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the issue of adding the crimes of assault on a school teacher (R.S. 14:38.2) and battery of a school teacher (R.S. 14:34.3) to the offenses enumerated as crimes of violence in R.S. 14:2(B) and to report its findings to the Legislature of Louisiana, including any recommendations for legislative changes as are appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report be submitted to the Legislature of Louisiana prior to the convening of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute work in conjunction with and obtain input from all stakeholders deemed appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana State Law Institute.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES