

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 135

BY REPRESENTATIVE MACK

PARDON/PAROLE: Creates the Louisiana Probation and Parole Officer Compensation Study Commission

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To create and establish the Louisiana Probation and Parole Officer Compensation Study  
3 Commission to study and examine the feasibility of providing a salary increase for  
4 Louisiana probation and parole officers and to report its findings to the governor and  
5 the Louisiana Legislature by February 1, 2017.

6 WHEREAS, one of the primary goals of the Louisiana criminal justice system is to  
7 safely reduce recidivism among Louisiana parolees and probationers by helping and  
8 encouraging each offender through the process of reintegrating into society; and

9 WHEREAS, the probation or parole officer assigned to each offender plays a vital  
10 role in the success of the offender's reentry into his community; and

11 WHEREAS, the division of probation and parole of the Department of Public Safety  
12 and Corrections functions as a community services division and is comprised of twenty  
13 district offices located throughout the state and its headquarters located in Baton Rouge,  
14 Louisiana; and

15 WHEREAS, probation and parole officers are P.O.S.T.-certified officers who  
16 supervise adult offenders who are released to the community on probation, parole,  
17 diminution of sentence, home incarceration, medical furlough, or supervised release and  
18 those offenders who relocate to Louisiana from other states; and

19 WHEREAS, probation and parole officers ensure that offenders comply with the  
20 conditions of supervision, identify problems and solutions, make appropriate referrals,  
21 provide general counseling, and perform arrests as needed to protect public safety; and

1           WHEREAS, helping to ensure the successful reentry of these offenders, probation  
2 and parole officers visit offenders in their homes, in their workplaces, or at other locations  
3 in the community; and

4           WHEREAS, in addition, probation and parole officers provide investigative services  
5 to decision makers in the criminal justice system, including judges, the Board of Pardons and  
6 committee on parole, and the governor's office, and oversee the collection of victim  
7 restitution, supervision fees, and a variety of criminal justice fees.

8           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
9 create and establish the Louisiana Probation and Parole Officer Compensation Study  
10 Commission to study and examine the feasibility of providing a salary increase for  
11 Louisiana probation and parole officers who play a vital role in achieving Louisiana's goals  
12 of reducing recidivism and successfully reintegrating offenders into society.

13           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be comprised of the  
14 following members:

15           (1) The chairman of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice or  
16 his designee.

17           (2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B or his designee.

18           (3) The chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations or his designee.

19           (4) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance or his designee.

20           (5) The director of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, division of  
21 probation and parole or his designee.

22           (6) The president of the Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police or his designee.

23           (7) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association or his designee.

24           (8) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police or his  
25 designee.

26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the commission shall serve  
27 without compensation and vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original  
28 appointments.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall meet as necessary and is  
2 authorized to request data, staff, and technical or administrative assistance from those  
3 entities that comprise the membership of the commission.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall submit a written report of  
5 its findings to the governor and the Louisiana Legislature by February 1, 2017.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be abolished upon  
7 submission of the report.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
9 to the appointing entities named in this Resolution.

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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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HCR 135 Engrossed

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Creates and establishes the La. Probation and Parole Officer Compensation Study Commission to study and examine the feasibility of providing a salary increase for La. probation and parole officers and to report its findings to the governor and La. Legislature by Feb. 1, 2017.