

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 204

BY REPRESENTATIVE BISHOP

EXCEP PERSON/DISABLED: Encourages retail establishments with public areas to dedicate five percent of seating to chairs with arms to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or limited mobility

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To encourage retail establishments with public areas, including restaurants, food service
3 establishments, offices of medical providers, facilities that offer sleeping rooms,
4 barber shops, and beauty shops, as well as meeting rooms and waiting rooms for
5 many other offices, to dedicate at least five percent of their total seating to chairs
6 with arms in order to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or limited
7 mobility and to provide better accessibility to these establishments that invite and
8 serve the public.

9 WHEREAS, accessibility to retail establishments and public areas is important to the
10 citizens of Louisiana, especially to those facing challenges with disabilities or limited
11 mobility, whose quality of life is greatly impacted by such accessibility; and

12 WHEREAS, it is envisioned that a reasonable amount of armchair seating be
13 provided to persons with such disabilities or limited mobility in retail establishments with
14 public areas, including restaurants, food service establishments, offices of medical providers,
15 facilities that offer sleeping rooms, barber shops, and beauty shops, as well as meeting rooms
16 and waiting rooms for many other offices, in order to accommodate such persons and to
17 provide better accessibility in these establishments and areas that invite and serve the public;
18 and

1 WHEREAS, people with physical disabilities or limited mobility face unique
2 challenges daily and are dependent upon the commitment of the community to identify and
3 assist with removing barriers particularly with respect to accessibility in retail establishments
4 and public areas; and

5 WHEREAS, businesses in this state should be encouraged to provide accessibility
6 to retail establishments and public areas for physically disabled persons and those with
7 limited mobility; and

8 WHEREAS, the federal Americans with Disabilities Act states that "no individual
9 shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of
10 the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of any place of
11 public accommodation by any person who owns, leases or leases to, or operates a place of
12 public accommodation"; and

13 WHEREAS, a commitment should be made to all citizens of Louisiana living with
14 physical disabilities or limited mobility that they have proper access to all retail
15 establishments and public areas by encouraging businesses to provide a minimum percentage
16 of their seating to chairs with arms to accommodate such persons.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
18 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby encourage retail establishments with public areas,
19 including restaurants, food service establishments, offices of medical providers, facilities
20 that offer sleeping rooms, barber shops, and beauty shops, as well as meeting rooms and
21 waiting rooms for many other offices, to dedicate at least five percent of total seating to
22 chairs with arms in order to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or limited
23 mobility and to provide better accessibility to these establishments that invite and serve the
24 public.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26 president of the Louisiana Restaurant Association, the executive director of the Louisiana
27 Retailers Association, the president of the Louisiana Hotel and Lodging Association, and the
28 president of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.

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)]

HR 204 Original

2016 Regular Session

Bishop

Encourages retail establishments with public areas, including restaurants, food service establishments, offices of medical providers, facilities that offer sleeping rooms, barber shops, and beauty shops, as well as meeting rooms and waiting rooms for many other offices, to dedicate at least 5% of their total seating to chairs with arms in order to accommodate persons with physical disabilities or limited mobility and to provide better accessibility to these establishments that invite and serve the public.