

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 135

BY REPRESENTATIVE MACK

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

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To create and establish the Louisiana Probation, Parole, and Correctional Officer
3 Compensation Study Commission to study and examine the feasibility of providing
4 a salary increase for Louisiana probation, parole, and correctional officers and to
5 report its findings to the governor and 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 by helping and encouraging each offender through the process of
8 reintegrating into society; and

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

11 WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections,
12 corrections services, to enhance public safety through the safe and secure incarceration of
13 offenders and effective probation and parole supervision; and

14 WHEREAS, correctional officers of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections
15 provide for the safety of staff and offenders by maintaining an organized and disciplined
16 system of operations which enhance the stability of all programs provided by the
17 department; and

18 WHEREAS, correctional officers also promote moral rehabilitation through
19 encouraging program participation and providing an environment for offenders that enables
20 positive behavior change; and

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

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

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

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

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

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
20 create and establish the Louisiana Probation, Parole, and Correctional Officer Compensation
21 Study Commission to study and examine the feasibility of providing a salary increase for
22 Louisiana probation, parole, and correctional officers who play a vital role in achieving
23 Louisiana's goals of reducing recidivism and successfully reintegrating offenders into
24 society.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be comprised of the
26 following members:

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

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

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

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

2 (5) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections or his
3 designee.

4 (6) The director of state civil service or his designee.

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

7 (8) The president of the Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police or his designee.

8 (9) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association or his designee.

9 (10) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police or his
10 designee.

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

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

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

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be abolished upon
20 submission of the report.

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

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)]

HCR 135 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

Mack

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

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the engrossed resolution:

1. Add the salary of correctional officers to the issues to be examined by the commission.
2. Add the secretary of the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections or his designee and the director of state civil service or his designee to the membership of the commission.
3. Make technical changes.