

1 WHEREAS, despite the increased awareness of suicide as a public health problem,
2 studies indicate that law enforcement officers who come in contact with people at risk for
3 suicide are not adequately trained to recognize factors that may indicate a potential for
4 suicide; and

5 WHEREAS, training of law enforcement officers in suicide assessment would be
6 effective, valuable, and life-saving for military service members and veterans in crisis; and

7 WHEREAS, training for law enforcement officers that includes identification of
8 mental illness and behavioral disorders, conditions that may indicate a higher risk for stress-
9 related disorders would greatly assist military service members and veterans who encounter
10 crisis situations that result from reintegration into civilian life; and

11 WHEREAS, it is vital that law enforcement agency personnel respond to military
12 service members and veterans with special awareness of those service members who have
13 been deployed in their military career.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15 urge and request local, parish, and state law enforcement agencies to develop and implement
16 special training for law enforcement officers that come in direct contact with military service
17 members and veterans who encounter crisis situations that result from veteran reintegration
18 in order to recognize the factors that may indicate thoughts of suicide or harm to others.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
20 president of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, the executive director of the
21 Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, and the superintendent of Louisiana State Police.

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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Requests local, parish, and state law enforcement agencies to implement special training for officers who encounter military veterans in crisis.