

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 10

BY REPRESENTATIVE NORTON

**PUBLIC SFTY/CORRECTIONS:** Requests the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to review eligibility requirements of its rehabilitative programs to determine whether adequate rehabilitative programs are available to every offender in its custody

1    A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to review its catalog  
3 of rehabilitative programs and each program's eligibility requirements to determine  
4 whether a program is available to every offender in its custody and whether such  
5 programs are adequate to prepare offenders for reentry into the community.

6            WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to  
7 enhance public safety through the safe and secure incarceration of offenders, effective  
8 probation and parole supervision, and proven rehabilitative strategies that successfully  
9 reintegrate offenders into society, as well as to assist individuals and communities victimized  
10 by crime; and

11            WHEREAS, in furtherance of its commitment to public safety and rehabilitation, the  
12 Department of Public Safety and Corrections has made it a priority to promote moral  
13 rehabilitation through program participation and to provide an environment for offenders  
14 which enables positive behavior change; and

15            WHEREAS, this goal is accomplished by making or identifying educational and  
16 rehabilitative opportunities available within the institution, or in the community for  
17 offenders under supervision, who demonstrate motivation for change and the desire to  
18 participate in such programs; and

19            WHEREAS, in 2017, the Louisiana Justice Reinvestment Task Force, comprised of  
20 legislators, judges, defense lawyers, prosecutors, law enforcement officials, faith leaders, and

1 community advocates, developed recommendations and proposed legislation affecting  
2 sentencing and corrections practices with the goal of reducing the corrections population and  
3 associated spending, expanding research-based supervision and sentencing practices, and  
4 strategically reinvesting savings to reduce recidivism and improve reentry outcomes; and

5 WHEREAS, realization of the savings encompassed in the Louisiana Justice  
6 Reinvestment Task Force's recommendations, which were ultimately adopted by the  
7 legislature through the enactment of ten legislative instruments, is dependent upon the  
8 successful reentry of the offender into society leading to an overall reduction in recidivism;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, to this end, it is necessary that each offender sentenced to the custody  
11 of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections be given the opportunity to participate  
12 in programs offered by the department to prepare offenders for their return to their  
13 communities and to remain there as productive citizens.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
15 urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to review its catalog of  
16 rehabilitative programs and each program's eligibility requirements to determine whether a  
17 program is available to every offender in its custody and whether such programs are  
18 adequate to prepare offenders for reentry into the community.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety and Corrections  
20 shall report its findings and any recommendations for legislative changes to the legislature  
21 no later than January 1, 2019.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
23 to the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

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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 10 Original

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