The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Leonore Heavey.

DIGEST

SB 467 Original

2018 Regular Session

Morrell

<u>Proposed law</u> establishes the Louisiana Jury Study Task Force. Provides that the purpose of the task force is to review data submitted to determine if current voir dire practices lead to the selection of fair and impartial juries and to make recommendations to the legislature for necessary policy changes by February 1, 2021.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the task force shall consist of the following members:

- (1) The chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B, or his designee.
- (2) The chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary C, or his designee.
- (3) The chair of the House Committee on the Judiciary, or his designee.
- (4) The chair of the House Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice, or his designee.
- (5) The executive director of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, or his designee.
- (6) The State Public Defender, or his designee.
- (7) One attorney licensed to practice law in Louisiana who predominantly practices in criminal law, appointed by the governor.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires that the members of the task force elect a chairman, vice chairman, and other officers it deems necessary.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that a member of the task force shall serve without compensation. Further provides that a member may receive a per diem and be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary travel and other expenses actually incurred on business of the task force provided such reimbursement is authorized and paid by the representative agency or organization.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires task force to hold at least two meetings each year and authorizes the task force to hold other meetings upon the call of the chair or a majority of the members. Further provides that the initial meeting be called jointly by the chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B and the chair of the House Committee on the Judiciary.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that staff and facilities needed by the task force to accomplish its purposes shall be provided by the legislature from its existing resources.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for the powers and functions of the task force. Provides that the task force shall do the following:

- (1) Receive the data required by <u>proposed law</u> on the racial make-up of jury pools and juries.
- (2) Evaluate the data to determine if potential jurors are more likely to be struck depending on their race.
- (3) Evaluate the data to determine if there is a statistically significant difference among juror voting based on race.
- (4) Share findings with all appropriate public entities and civic organizations.
- (5) Report to the legislature its recommendations for necessary policy changes.
- (6) Take any action it deems appropriate and beneficial to achieving its purpose.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires jury commissions, district attorneys, and clerks of court to submit racial demographic information of jury pools, juries, jury voting, and defendants. Requires data to be submitted in a format that does specifically identify any particular juror.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the legislative auditor to issue subpoenas if the demographic information required by proposed law is not submitted to the task force timely.

Proposed law terminates the task force on July 1, 2021.

Effective August 1, 2018.

(Adds R.S. 15:1701-1705)