

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To create the Task Force on Baton Rouge Police Department Policies to study issues related

3 to the seniority, promotion, and discipline of Baton Rouge police officers and to

4 study strategies and best procedures by which the Baton Rouge Police Department

5 can improve the educational and training requirements of its officers and to provide

6 for a written report of findings and recommendations to the House Committee on

7 Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs and the Senate Committee on Local and

8 Municipal Affairs not later December 31, 2018.

9 WHEREAS, the citizens in many areas of the state of Louisiana are enduring a spike

10 in violent, deadly crime as in the city of Baton Rouge which saw homicide rates soar to

11 historic highs in 2017; and

12 WHEREAS, law enforcement officers provide a vital public service by playing an

13 essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the state's citizens; and

14 WHEREAS, in order to safeguard the public and law enforcement officers of this

15 state, it is vital for law enforcement officers and the communities that they serve to have

16 strong, collaborative relationships; and

17 WHEREAS, trust between law enforcement officers and the public is essential to the

18 stability of communities, the integrity of the criminal justice system, and the safe and

19 effective delivery of public safety services; and

1 WHEREAS, it is imperative that law enforcement agencies, including the Baton
2 Rouge Police Department, employ and retain highly qualified and motivated police officers;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, due to expanding law enforcement responsibilities and decreasing
5 resources, maintaining a highly qualified and motivated police workforce has become one
6 of the greatest challenges facing law enforcement agencies today; and

7 WHEREAS, Baton Rouge police leaders have recently complained that officers are
8 overworked and becoming increasingly frustrated, and attrition has left the Baton Rouge
9 Police Department facing the largest manpower shortage in fifteen years; and

10 WHEREAS, the mayor-president of East Baton Rouge Parish has included funding
11 for two thirty-five officer academies in the 2018 budget of the city-parish which Baton
12 Rouge police leaders hope will begin to replenish the ranks; and

13 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the Baton Rouge Police Department take every
14 precaution to ensure that the duties of its officers are performed at the highest level
15 available.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby creates
17 the Task Force on Baton Rouge Police Department Policies to study issues related to the
18 seniority, promotion, and discipline of Baton Rouge police officers and to study strategies
19 and best procedures by which the Baton Rouge Police Department can improve the
20 educational and training requirements of its officers.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the
22 following members:

- 23 (1) The state representative for House District No. 61.
- 24 (2) The state senator for Senate District No. 15.
- 25 (3) The mayor-president of East Baton Rouge Parish or his designee.
- 26 (4) Two members of the governing authority of East Baton Rouge Parish designated
27 by the governing authority. One member shall be a republican and one member shall be a
28 democrat.
- 29 (5) A representative of Together Baton Rouge designated by the executive
30 committee of Together Baton Rouge.

1 (6) The president of the Baton Rouge Union of Police or his designee.

2 (7) The president of the Magnolia State Peace Officers Association of Louisiana or
3 his designee.

4 (8) Four members of the Baton Rouge community appointed jointly by the state
5 representative for House District No. 61 and the state senator for Senate District No. 15.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of
7 findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and
8 Cultural Affairs and the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs not later than
9 December 31, 2018.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the
11 entities named in this Resolution to serve or be represented on the task force.

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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2018 Regular Session

Marcelle

Creates the Task Force on Baton Rouge Police Department Policies to study issues related to the seniority, promotion, and discipline of Baton Rouge police officers and to study strategies and best procedures by which the Baton Rouge Police Department can improve the educational and training requirements of its officers. Provides for a written report of findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs and the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs not later than Dec. 31, 2018.