

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 204

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONDS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the laws regarding adoption and adoption incentives in Louisiana and to submit a written report of its findings with recommendations relative to the payment of expenses in adoptions.

WHEREAS, House Concurrent Resolution 79 of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature requested the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the laws regarding adoptions and adoption incentives in Louisiana and to submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure and the Senate Committee on Judiciary A; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Law Institute studied the adoption laws in Louisiana and in other states and made recommendations for amendments to current law addressing adoption incentives in House Bill 643 of the 2018 Regular Session of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, further study of the adoption disclosure data maintained by the Department of Children and Family Services is necessary to assess reasonable adoption costs; and

WHEREAS, the payment of simultaneous or previous living expenses is not specifically addressed in present adoption law and also needs further study.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to study non-identifying data maintained by the Department of Children and Family Services relative to fees and charges reported in Adoption Disclosure Affidavits and to study and recommend a mechanism for ascertaining and reporting all living expenses paid in

contemplation of adoption that respects the rights of the birth parents and provides accountability.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Children and Family Services shall provide to the Louisiana State Law Institute such non-identifying data relative to the fees and charges reported in Adoption Disclosure Affidavits as may be requested by the Louisiana State Law Institute.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State University Public Administration Institute and Department of Economics may assist in the collection and analysis of the data at the request of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure no later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2019 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the director of the Louisiana State Law Institute, the secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, the director of the Louisiana State University Public Administration Institute, and the department chair of the Louisiana State University Department of Economics.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES