

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 233

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to evaluate the Recreation and Park Commission for the parish of East Baton Rouge to ensure the board members are meeting required responsibilities.

WHEREAS, it is well recognized that the Recreation and Park Commission of the parish of East Baton Rouge, as a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana, is a major source to a healthier, more vibrant community by providing exceptional parks, open spaces, and recreation experiences for all of East Baton Rouge Parish; and

WHEREAS, it is the commission's vision to provide an extraordinary system of parks, open spaces, and facilities that engages the parish's unique natural and cultural landscape to enrich parish life by providing diverse and memorable recreation experiences; and

WHEREAS, the commission has more than one hundred eighty parks including a state of the art observatory, a swamp nature center and conservation areas, a performing arts theater, an equestrian park, an art gallery, an arboretum, a zoo, seven golf courses, and an extreme sports park with a thirty thousand foot concrete skate park, rock climbing wall, BMX track, and velodrome; and

WHEREAS, the Recreation and Park Commission is governed by a nine-member board of commissioners, six of whom are appointed by the Metro Council and three of whom are ex officio members, the Mayor-President, a member of the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board, and a member of the City-Parish Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, many of the properties that are managed by the commission are considered specialty properties which require a certain knowledge, special training, and experience; and

WHEREAS, an in-depth evaluation of the commission is deemed advisable to make sure the members of the board of commissioners possess the skills to fulfill the purpose of developing, maintaining, and operating public park and recreational properties and facilities

in East Baton Rouge Parish because of the concern for the maintenance of integrity of the parks, particularly the specialty properties.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to evaluate the Recreation and Park Commission for the parish of East Baton Rouge to ensure the board members are meeting required responsibilities.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE