

2019 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 51

BY SENATOR MORRELL

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. Creates the Louisiana Task Force on Lead-Free Water.

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create and provide for the Louisiana Task Force on Lead-Free Water to study the problem of lead contamination in state and local water systems and recommend any action or legislation that the task force deems necessary.

WHEREAS, the delivery of safe water is essential to the health and welfare of each and every citizen and the single most important duty that a government owes its people; and

WHEREAS, lead is a naturally occurring metal but when ingested, it can accumulate in the body and cause a variety of health complications such as developmental issues, increased cancer risk, severe damage to the nervous system, reproduction system and other organs, as well as high blood pressure and anemia; and

WHEREAS, there is no level of lead exposure that is considered safe to humans; and

WHEREAS, despite its dangers, lead is still being found in many water systems throughout the state, mainly because of an aging infrastructure consisting of pipes made from lead; and

WHEREAS, there are an estimated fifty thousand lead lines in Louisiana, and many of these are located in the lines that link municipal systems to homes; and

WHEREAS, there is no greater urgency than ensuring that the people of Louisiana are being delivered water free of lead contamination.

1 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana creates the
2 Louisiana Task Force on Lead-Free Water to study the problem of lead contamination in
3 state and local water systems and recommend any action or legislation that the task force
4 deems necessary.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force created herein shall consist of the
6 following thirteen members:

7 (1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee, who shall
8 serve as the chairperson of the task force.

9 (2) The secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality or his designee.

10 (3) The chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee.

11 (4) The chair of the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs or his designee.

12 (5) The chair of the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs or his
13 designee.

14 (6) The chair of the House Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee.

15 (7) The chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means or his designee.

16 (8) The chair of the House Committee on Local, Municipal, and Parochial Affairs
17 or his designee.

18 (9) The chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center New
19 Orleans or his designee.

20 (10) The chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center
21 Shreveport or his designee.

22 (11) The president of the Senate or his designee.

23 (12) The speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee.

24 (13) The governor of Louisiana or his designee.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting such study, the task force shall
26 study current law, policy, and efforts in Louisiana and other states to eliminate lead
27 contamination from water systems, work with local governments to ensure the transition
28 from lead pipes to safe alternatives, establish a timeline for such upgrades, and shall
29 recommend any action or legislation that the commission deems necessary or appropriate.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve

