

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 56

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

CRIME: Requests the study of homicide offenses in Louisiana with respect to the offender's prior criminal history

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of
3 Criminal Justice to compile data and information with respect to homicide offenses
4 committed in the last five years in Louisiana, including information on the offense
5 charged, any plea agreement, and dismissal, to determine the number of persons who
6 had an active criminal justice status or prior criminal history at the time of the
7 commission of the offense, to use this data and information to develop theories or
8 trends with respect to a person's active criminal justice status or prior criminal
9 history and its impact on the likelihood of the person's subsequent commission of a
10 homicide, and to evaluate current bail and parole policies in order to focus greater
11 attention and action on habitual violent offenders.

12 WHEREAS, according to a recent study of FBI statistics from 2013 through 2017,
13 Louisiana has the highest murder rate in the United States with an average of over eleven
14 murders per one hundred thousand people in the state; and

15 WHEREAS, according to the same study, four of the metropolitan areas with the
16 highest murder rates were in Louisiana – New Orleans-Metairie, Baton Rouge, Lafayette,
17 and Shreveport-Bossier City – with each city having a murder rate twice the national
18 average; and

19 WHEREAS, in light of these statistics on Louisiana's highest ranking homicide rate,
20 it is imperative that the Louisiana criminal justice system develop a better understanding of
21 the nature of these homicide offenses specifically with respect to a person's prior encounter

1 or involvement with the criminal justice system and the role a person's active criminal justice
2 status plays in the likelihood of the person's commission of a subsequent homicide offense;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration
5 of Criminal Justice (LCLE) is the state agency primarily charged with criminal justice policy
6 planning and with conducting research on crime and the criminal justice system in
7 Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, the Policy Planning Section of LCLE is charged with the identification
9 and analysis of crime and criminal justice related problems and the development of a range
10 of alternative solutions for consideration by criminal justice and legislative policy makers;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the role of the Policy Planning Section is to provide policy makers with
13 objective, research-based information which can be used both in policy consideration and,
14 by identifying costs and possible sources of success or failure, policy implementation.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 urge and request the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of
17 Criminal Justice to compile data and information with respect to homicide offenses
18 committed in the last five years in Louisiana, including information on the offense charged,
19 any plea agreement, and dismissal, to determine the number of persons who had an active
20 criminal justice status or prior criminal history at the time of the commission of the offense,
21 to use this data and information to develop theories or trends with respect to a person's active
22 criminal justice status or prior criminal history and its impact on the likelihood of the
23 person's subsequent commission of a homicide, and to evaluate current bail and parole
24 policies in order to focus greater attention and action on habitual violent offenders.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement
26 and Administration of Criminal Justice shall report its findings, including any legislative and
27 policy recommendations, to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular
28 Session of the Legislature.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement
2 and Administration of Criminal Justice may seek input, data, and information from criminal
3 justice agencies and other relevant entities as is necessary to accomplish its purpose.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
5 Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice.

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)]

HCR 56 Engrossed

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Bagley

Urges and requests the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice to compile data and information with respect to homicide offenses committed in the last five years in Louisiana, including information on the offense charged, any plea agreement, and dismissal, to determine the number of persons who had an active criminal justice status or prior criminal history at the time of the commission of the offense, to use this data and information to develop theories or trends with respect to a person's active criminal justice status or prior criminal history and its impact on the likelihood of the person's subsequent commission of a homicide, and to evaluate current bail and parole policies in order to focus greater attention and action on habitual violent offenders.

Requires the La. Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice to report its findings, including any legislative and policy recommendations, to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2022 R.S.