

1 (2) Louisiana district attorneys have participated in all phases of the state's furlough
2 plan by conducting local investigations of the inmate history prior to the panel hearings and
3 participating in the hearings as panel members; and

4 WHEREAS, with regard to victim services, Louisiana district attorneys have
5 embraced the challenges brought about by the pandemic to deliver services to victims of
6 crime, including but not limited to:

7 (1) Facilitating the issuance of Uniform Abuse Prevention orders in accordance with
8 R.S. 46: 2136 in domestic violence cases and during bail setting in accordance with C.Cr.P.
9 Art. 320 for victims of crimes of violence, sex offenses, and human trafficking through
10 innovated means such as traveling to the victims with technology in order to participate in
11 the required hearings remotely when victims lacked the requisite technology and the ability
12 to travel.

13 (2) Providing necessary assistance and referral for counseling services, assistance
14 with emergency housing, food, clothing, and other needs, facilitating relocation of victims
15 and witnesses who are in dangerous situations.

16 (3) Participating in the on-site and emergent needs relating to Child in Need of Care
17 and Family in Need of Service cases which often involve emergency situations; and

18 WHEREAS, with regard to investigative services:

19 (1) District attorneys employ in excess of two hundred investigators who are, by
20 definition, "peace officers", pursuant to R.S. 16:13.1 and as such are authorized to carry
21 firearms in the performance of their duties.

22 (2) District attorneys have afforded twenty-four hour on-call response to major and
23 complex crimes such as homicide, sexual assaults, and those which are much more prevalent
24 during the stay-at-home mandate such as domestic abuse, human trafficking, Medicaid fraud,
25 racketeer-influenced and corrupt organizations (RICO) violations, etc.; and

26 WHEREAS, with regard to public body representation, district attorneys have had
27 to redirect significant resources to assist local government with "open meetings" compliance
28 throughout the pandemic.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby urges
30 and requests the division of administration to review the eligibility of district attorneys to

1 receive reimbursement under the "public safety" presumption of the CARES Act.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jay

3 Dardenne, commissioner of administration.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST

SCR 25 Original

2020 First Extraordinary Session

Reese

Requests the division of administration to review the eligibility of district attorneys to receive reimbursement under the "public safety" presumption of the CARES Act.