

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 136

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

CRIME/PROSTITUTION: Creates a study commission to gather facts on prostitution-related crimes by parish as well as alternatives offered and public health concerns

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To create the Commission on Prostitution-Related Crimes to study prostitution-related  
3 crimes by parish as well as alternatives offered and related public health concerns  
4 and to report its findings to the legislature.

5 WHEREAS, a humane and effective justice system is a necessary predicate for a  
6 functioning and healthy democracy; and

7 WHEREAS, as recently as the early 1970s, the United States had an incarceration  
8 rate on par with most other Western democracies and while their crime rates today are at  
9 nearly identical levels, America's incarceration rate is five times higher; and

10 WHEREAS, nearly five million people are arrested and jailed in the United States  
11 every year; one in two women in prison are incarcerated as a result of nonviolent offenses  
12 and nearly two-thirds are confined in jails due to an inability to afford cash bail; and

13 WHEREAS, by decriminalizing behavior that does not require confinement and  
14 addressing structural inequities that impede the safety, dignity, and well-being of all  
15 individuals, especially those most vulnerable to discrimination on the basis of race, gender  
16 identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, socioeconomic status, and citizenship,  
17 the amount of incarcerations would be reduced drastically.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create the Commission on Prostitution-Related Crimes  
20 to study prostitution-related crimes by parish as well as alternatives offered and related

1 public health concerns and to report its findings to the legislature prior to December 31,  
2 2022.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall meet in person or through  
4 video conference at least four times, the meetings shall commence no later than September  
5 1, 2022, and notice of such meetings shall be given one week prior to meeting.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be composed of the  
7 following members, a majority of which shall constitute a quorum, with two co-chairs to be  
8 elected by the majority of the members at the first meeting:

9 (1) The chairman of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice,  
10 or his designee.

11 (2) The author of House Bill No. 67 of the 2021 Regular Session of the Legislature,  
12 or his designee.

13 (3) A representative from the Orleans Parish District Attorney's office appointed by  
14 the district attorney.

15 (4) A representative from the New Orleans Police Department.

16 (5) A representative from the Louisiana Department of Health appointed by the  
17 secretary of the department.

18 (6) The former director of the Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force.

19 (7) Two representatives from Women With a Vision, Inc.

20 (8) A representative from the Sex Worker Advisory Committee.

21 (9) A representative from the New Orleans Family Justice Center.

22 (10) A representative from the Louisiana Community Health Outreach Network.

23 (11) A representative from the American Civil Liberties Union.

24 (12) A representative from Louisiana Survivors for Reform.

25 (13) A representative from Access Health Louisiana.

26 (14) A representative from Transcending Women.

27 (15) A representative from the Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center.

28 (16) A representative from Sex Workers Outreach Project-Shreveport.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each  
30 member of the commission.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission on Prostitution-Related Crimes  
2 shall submit one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this  
3 Resolution to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

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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)]

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HR 136 Original

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