



1           WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has made many reforms to the state's parole  
2 system, including reforms passed as part of the 2017 justice reinvestment legislation; and

3           WHEREAS, the Justice Reinvestment Initiative also sought to reduce the number of  
4 individuals on supervised release and reduce the caseload of probation and parole officers;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, despite the success of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, Louisiana still  
7 provides unequal parole opportunities due to conflicting laws; and

8           WHEREAS, Louisiana's laws have developed over centuries and have become  
9 inconsistent; and

10          WHEREAS, there is a collection of state laws that govern parole eligibility; and

11          WHEREAS, states across the country are looking to reform their parole systems to  
12 ensure these systems are equitable and just; and

13          WHEREAS, Voice of the Experienced is a Louisiana membership organization  
14 established by and for persons who are directly impacted by the criminal justice system,  
15 including incarcerated persons and their family members, persons under community  
16 supervision, and persons living with the lifelong impacts of criminal convictions; and

17          WHEREAS, the Louisiana Parole Project is a non-profit organization working to  
18 enhance public safety through advocacy, programming, and services for persons who have  
19 served long prison sentences so that they may reach their full potential; and

20          WHEREAS, the Promise of Justice Initiative is a non-profit organization working  
21 to create positive change for individuals in the criminal legal system at the intersection of  
22 impact litigation, direct services, and community engagement; and

23          WHEREAS, Louisiana Survivors for Reform is a coalition of crime survivors,  
24 families of homicide victims, and organizations creating change in the criminal justice  
25 system; and

26          WHEREAS, the Parole and Re-entry Clinic at Louisiana State University Paul M.  
27 Hebert Law Center provides law students the opportunity to represent and assist individuals  
28 in parole and pardon matters.

1           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
2 urge and request Voice of the Experienced, the Louisiana Parole Project, the Promise of  
3 Justice Initiative, Louisiana Survivors for Reform, and the Parole and Re-entry Clinic at  
4 Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center to study the history of parole in  
5 Louisiana, analyze current parole laws and regulations, and propose recommendations to  
6 create a more uniform parole system.

7           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Voice of the Experienced, the Louisiana Parole  
8 Project, the Promise of Justice Initiative, Louisiana Survivors for Reform, and the Parole and  
9 Re-entry Clinic at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center may work with  
10 and receive information from various stakeholders in the criminal justice system, including  
11 but not limited to representatives of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, the  
12 Board of Pardons, the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, the committee on parole,  
13 Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response, Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense  
14 Lawyers, Victims of Innocent Citizens Empowered, and other relevant state agencies and  
15 institutions.

16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Voice of the Experienced, the Louisiana Parole  
17 Project, the Promise of Justice Initiative, Louisiana Survivors for Reform, and the Parole and  
18 Re-entry Clinic at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center may also study  
19 relevant case law and best practices to better understand other approaches to parole in the  
20 state and federal systems.

21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Voice of the Experienced, the Louisiana Parole  
22 Project, the Promise of Justice Initiative, Louisiana Survivors for Reform, and the Parole and  
23 Re-entry Clinic at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center shall report their  
24 findings to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than February 1, 2022.

25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
26 executive director of the Voice of the Experienced, the president of the Louisiana Parole  
27 Project, the executive director of the Promise of Justice Initiative, the organizer of Louisiana  
28 Survivors for Reform, and the supervising faculty member of the Parole and Re-entry Clinic  
29 at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one print copy and one electronic copy of any  
2 report produced pursuant to this Resolution shall be submitted to the David R. Poynter  
3 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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HCR 97 Reengrossed

2021 Regular Session

Jones

Requests the Voice of the Experienced, the La. Parole Project, the Promise of Justice Initiative, La. Survivors for Reform, and the Parole and Re-entry Clinic at La. State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center to study the history of parole in La., applicable case law, and any relevant practices, and to submit a report to the La. Legislature.

#### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill:

1. Add the La. District Attorneys Association as an additional stakeholder who may provide information to the groups conducting the study.

#### The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add Sexual Trauma Awareness and Response, Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and Victims of Innocent Citizens Empowered as additional stakeholders in the criminal justice system who may provide information to the organizations conducting the study.