HLS 21RS-2956 ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 119

BY REPRESENTATIVE JONES

PILOTS: Urges and requests the Blanco Center to analyze market demand, market rates, diversity, education and training related to the maritime industry

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center at the University
3	of Louisiana at Lafayette (Blanco Center) to collaborate with the University of
4	Louisiana System including Grambling, the Southern University System, and the
5	Louisiana Community and Technical College System to analyze market demand,
6	market rates, diversity, and education and training related to maritime and port-
7	related jobs, including the offshore, marine, and barge industries in Louisiana and
8	to submit a written report of its findings to the legislature.
9	WHEREAS, Louisiana is number one in waterborne traffic via the five ports on the
10	lower Mississippi River combined; and
11	WHEREAS, river port pilots and steamship pilots assist in steering foreign-flagged
12	cargo vessels from the Gulf of Mexico and down the Mississippi River; and
13	WHEREAS, river port and steamship piloting is one of the most lucrative blue collar
14	careers in this state; and
15	WHEREAS, the river port and steamship pilots' associations have attempted to
16	increase the diversity of their pool of qualified candidates to fill open pilot positions; and
17	WHEREAS, river port and steamship pilots are required to have a maritime degree
18	but Louisiana has no maritime schools; and
19	WHEREAS, river port and steamship pilots often begin their careers in other
20	maritime and port-related jobs; and

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WHEREAS, Blanco Center Director Stephen Barnes has conducted numerous studies 2 of the Louisiana economy including studies on waterborne commerce, workforce demand, 3 and education and training; and 4 WHEREAS, the Blanco Center is a valuable resource for independent research and 5 analysis on matters of importance to public policy in Louisiana. 6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 7 urge and request the Blanco Center, in consultation with the University of Louisiana System 8 including Grambling, the Southern University System, and the Louisiana Community and 9 Technical College System, to analyze market demand, market rates, diversity, and education 10 and training related to maritime and port-related jobs, including the offshore, marine, and 11 barge industries and make recommendations to the legislature while balancing the following 12 goals: 13 (1) Increasing equitable access to employment as a river port and steamship pilot 14 in Louisiana. 15 (2) Maintaining safe and efficient navigation of rivers and waterways in 16 Louisiana. 17 Supporting Louisiana's competitive role as a hub for waterborne commerce. (3) 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that written reports shall be submitted to the House 19 Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, 20 and International Affairs on the following timeline: 21 (1) A preliminary status report no later than February 1, 2022. 22 (2) A final report of recommendations no later than February 1, 2023. 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 24 director of the Blanco Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the chairman of the 25 board of supervisors of the University of Louisiana System, the chairman of the board of 26 supervisors of the Southern University System, and the chairman of the board of supervisors 27 of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

## **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 119 Original

2021 Regular Session

Jones

Urges and requests the Blanco Center to collaborate with certain organizations to analyze market demand, market rates, diversity, and education and training related to maritime and port-related jobs, including the offshore, marine, and barge industries.