

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 195

BY SENATOR CLOUD

CHILDREN. Requests the attorney general to reestablish the Task Force on Protecting Children from Exposure to Pornography to study all issues related to the exposure of children to pornography and the impact it has on their lives.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the office of the attorney general to reestablish the Task Force on  
3 Protecting Children from Exposure to Pornography to study all issues related to the  
4 exposure of children to pornography and the impact it has on their lives.

5 WHEREAS, the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana recognize  
6 that pornography is creating a public health crisis and that it perpetuates a sexually toxic  
7 environment; and

8 WHEREAS, pornography contributes to the hyper-sexualization of teens and even  
9 prepubescent children in our society; and

10 WHEREAS, advancements in technology and the universal availability of the  
11 internet and social media make pornographic materials more easily accessible for young  
12 children; and

13 WHEREAS, research demonstrates that one-third of ten-year-olds and one-half of  
14 twelve-to-fifteen-year-olds regularly access internet pornography and other adult content;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the average age of exposure to pornography is now eleven-to-twelve  
17 years-old; and

18 WHEREAS, exposure to pornography often serves as a substitute for sex education

1 for children and youth and informs their sexual templates; and

2 WHEREAS, early exposure to pornography can lead to low self-esteem and body  
3 image disorders, an increase in problematic sexual activity at younger ages, and an increased  
4 desire among adolescents to engage in risky sexual behavior; and

5 WHEREAS, pornography that depicts violence and abuse of women and children  
6 tends to normalize such behavior; and

7 WHEREAS, pornography equates violence toward women and children with sex, and  
8 pain with pleasure, which increases the demand for sex trafficking, prostitution, child sexual  
9 abuse images, and child pornography; and

10 WHEREAS, potential detrimental effects on children and youth exposed to  
11 pornography can impact brain development and functioning, contribute to emotional and  
12 medical illness, shape deviant sexual arousal, and lead to difficulty in forming or  
13 maintaining positive, intimate relationships, as well as promote problematic or harmful  
14 sexual behavior and addiction; and

15 WHEREAS, studies conclude exposure to pornography at an early age is especially  
16 detrimental, causing addictions to instant gratification and greater impulses for increasingly  
17 more shocking material, leading to engagement in progressively more risky sexual behavior;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, pornography use is linked to lessening desire in young men to marry,  
20 dissatisfaction in marriage, and infidelity, and this link demonstrates that pornography has  
21 a detrimental effect on the family, the fundamental social unit in our culture; and

22 WHEREAS, efforts to prevent pornography exposure and addiction, to educate  
23 individuals and families concerning its harmful effects, and to develop recovery programs  
24 must be addressed systemically in a manner that holds providers accountable; and

25 WHEREAS, the Task Force on Protecting Children from Exposure to Pornography  
26 was originally created pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 56 of the 2019 Regular  
27 Session of the Louisiana Legislature but by the terms of the resolution, terminated on  
28 January 1, 2020.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
30 does hereby urge and request the office of the attorney general to reestablish the Task Force

1 on Protecting Children from Exposure to Pornography to continue the study of all issues  
2 related to the exposure of children to pornography and the impact it has on their lives.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be comprised of the  
4 following members:

5 (1) The president pro tempore of the Louisiana Senate, or her designee.

6 (2) The chair of the Senate Select Committee on Women and Children, or her  
7 designee.

8 (3) The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services, or his  
9 designee.

10 (4) A member of the Governor's Advisory Board of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency  
11 Prevention, appointed by the governor.

12 (5) The chairman of the Louisiana Cybersecurity Commission, or his designee.

13 (6) The chairman of the Children's Code Committee of the Louisiana Law Institute,  
14 or his designee.

15 (7) The president of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, or his designee.

16 (8) A representative of the Louisiana Attorney General's Cyber Crime Unit,  
17 appointed by the attorney general.

18 (9) The state superintendent of education, or his designee.

19 (10) The executive director of the Louisiana Baptist Convention, or his designee.

20 (11) The executive director of the Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops, or his  
21 designee.

22 (12) The president of the Louisiana Family Forum, or his designee.

23 (13) The board chair of the Louisiana Partnership for Children and Families, or his  
24 designee.

25 (14) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana Cable and Telecommunications  
26 Association – The Internet & Television Association, or his designee.

27 (15) The president of the Louisiana Telecommunications Association, or his  
28 designee.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of the attorney general shall provide  
30 staff support to the task force.

