

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 64

BY REPRESENTATIVE WRIGHT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To continue the Joint Subcommittee on International Trade of the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs that was created pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 69 of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana to study what legislative measures should be taken to best capitalize on Louisiana's competitive advantage in international trade by 2030 and to report the findings of the joint committee to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Louisiana contains three of the most important waterways in the world: the Mississippi River, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and the Calcasieu Ship Channel; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's port and rail connections are considered among the top global freight transportation hubs; and

WHEREAS, international trade, including exports and imports, supports more than one in five jobs; and

WHEREAS, more than ninety-five percent of the world's population and eighty percent of the world's purchasing power lie outside of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the future economic growth and jobs for Louisiana and America increasingly depend on expanding United States trade and investment opportunities in the global marketplace; and

WHEREAS, export growth increases jobs by generating new business for Louisiana's manufacturers, service providers, and farmers; and

WHEREAS, imports lower prices and increase choices for Louisiana companies and families; and

WHEREAS, trade-supported jobs are not just at companies that export and import; and

WHEREAS, trade supports higher wages for workers and lower costs for companies and consumers, providing them with more money to spend on other things; and

WHEREAS, this spending supports additional jobs throughout the economy in sectors like entertainment, education, and construction; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana ranks among the top U.S. state exporters in various industries, including grain and oilseed milling products, farmed fish, petroleum and coal products, and basic chemicals; and

WHEREAS, a purposeful and strategic approach to trade regulation, agreements, and investments would benefit Louisiana's economic future and the future of Louisiana families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend the Joint Subcommittee on International Trade of the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to meet and to study the best international trade practices to implement in order to capitalize on Louisiana's competitive advantage in international trade and to report the findings of the joint committee to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana further directs the joint subcommittee to solicit input, information, data, recommendations, and advice from the following agencies and organizations:

- (1) The Department of Economic Development.
- (2) The Department of Transportation and Development.
- (3) Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.
- (4) The Committee of 100.
- (5) The Louisiana Chemical Association.
- (6) Ports Association of Louisiana.
- (7) Louisiana Association of Waterways and Shipyards.
- (8) Louisiana Rail Association.

(9) Louisiana Motor Transportation Association.

(10) Any persons, agencies, entities, or stakeholders that it deems necessary to fulfill the purposes of the joint subcommittee.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE