HLS 22RS-977 ENGROSSED

2022 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLARD

VOTERS/VOTING: Creates a task force to study and make recommendations relative to the voting rights of people with disabilities

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To create a task force to study the voting rights of persons with disabilities and the
3	procedures available to assist voters with disabilities to cast their votes and to report
4	its findings to the Legislature of Louisiana prior to February 1, 2023.
5	WHEREAS, voting is a civic duty of paramount importance; and
6	WHEREAS, the right to vote is protected by the Constitution of the United States of
7	America and the Constitution of Louisiana; and
8	WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the immeasurable value one vote can have;
9	and
10	WHEREAS, it is important that each Louisiana citizen who is eligible to vote be able
11	to exercise that right; and
12	WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana is committed to exploring every possible
13	means that may positively affect the potential for every eligible citizen to participate in the
14	life of their community and state by voting; and
15	WHEREAS, persons with disabilities may face unique hurdles in accessing and
16	executing their ballots and obtaining full assurance that they are counted.
17	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
18	create a task force to study the voting rights of persons with disabilities and the procedures
19	available to assist voters with disabilities to cast their votes, including any means available,
20	or that might be made available, to facilitate voting by persons with disabilities and any
21	impediments that exist to voting by such persons; the task force shall, at a minimum,

1 investigate tactics to streamline the processes for voters with disabilities to receive assistance

- 2 when voting.
- 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the
- 4 following members:
- 5 (1) The secretary of state, or his designee, who shall chair the task force.
- 6 (2) The director of the office of disability affairs shall appoint three people with
- 7 disabilities.
- 8 (3) The commissioner of elections.
- 9 (4) The Clerks of Court Association shall appoint one member.
- 10 (5) The Registrars of Voters Association shall appoint one member.
- 11 (6) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, or his designee.
- 12 (7) The executive director of Disability Rights Louisiana shall appoint a person with
 13 a disability.
- (8) The chief executive officer of the Split Second Foundation shall appoint a personwith a disability.
- (9) The executive director of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council shall
 appoint a person with a disability.
- 18 (10) The executive director of The Arc Louisiana shall appoint a person with a disability.
- 20 (11) The executive director of Power Coalition for Equity and Justice, or his designee.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first meeting of the task force shall be called
- by the chair, and at its first meeting the task force shall select other officers as it deems
- 24 appropriate.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall meet at such times and
- places as determined by its chair.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve
- 28 without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be
- 29 individually entitled to as members or employees of their constituent organizations.

- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the total membership shall
- 2 constitute a quorum of the task force, and any official action by the task force shall require
- 3 an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum present and voting.
- 4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be staffed at the discretion
- 5 of the chair.
- 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall make a written report of its
- 7 findings, and any recommendations it may have, to the Legislature of Louisiana as required
- 8 by R.S. 24:771 and 772, by February 1, 2023.
- 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
- 10 to the governor and the secretary of state.

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 14 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Willard

Creates a task force to study the voting rights of persons with disabilities and the procedures available to assist those persons to cast their ballots and to report to the legislature by Feb. 1, 2023.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

- The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs</u> to the <u>original</u> resolution:
- 1. Remove provision that the task force shall investigate opportunities to provide curbside voting.
- 2. Change the chairman of the task force from the director of the office on disability affairs or his designee to the secretary of state or his designee.
- 3. Change provisions relative the composition of the task force.