HLS 22RS-755 ENGROSSED

2022 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONDS

VOTERS/VOTING: Urges and requests that the secretary of state produce an annual report of all voting complaints

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the secretary of state to produce and publish an annual report of all
3	voting complaints.
4	WHEREAS, the Department of State's election compliance unit was created by state
5	law in 2004 as a means to respond to complaints related to elections; and
6	WHEREAS, the elections compliance unit conducts investigations into allegations
7	of election irregularities, but it does not have the legal authority to prosecute complaints or
8	issue legal penalties; and
9	WHEREAS, if the elections compliance unit finds that a criminal act has been
10	committed, it forwards the complaint to the appropriate prosecutorial authority; and
11	WHEREAS, members of the public can file an election-related complaint by calling
12	the complaint hotline provided on the Department of State's website; and
13	WHEREAS, local election officials can report instances of election irregularities that
14	they have personally witnessed or that have come to their attention through complaints
15	received at the parish level; and
16	WHEREAS, the Department of State's elections compliance unit received five
17	hundred one election-related complaints from 2017 through 2021; and
18	WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor's Office conducted a performance audit of
19	Louisiana's election processes and procedures to determine whether existing processes are
20	adequate; and

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WHEREAS, the legislative auditor found that the Department of State could improve

- 2 its complaints process by consistently categorizing complaints, tracking the status of
- 3 complaints, and making this information available to the public.
- 4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
- 5 urge and request the secretary of state to add complaints received by the elections
- 6 compliance unit, sorted by the type of complaint, to his annual performance indicator
- 7 reporting.
- 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
- 9 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)]

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Urges and requests the secretary of state to add complaints received by the elections compliance unit and sorted by the type of complaint to its annual performance indicator report.

## 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. Change action requested of secretary of state <u>from</u> producing an annual report of voting complaints <u>to</u> adding complaints to his annual performance indicator report.