2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 101

BY REPRESENTATIVE BACALA

COURTS/CRIMINAL: Requests a study relative to reporting requirements for active felony cases in each judicial district

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of Louisiana to conduct a comprehensive study of active felony cases in each district court within every judicial district of the state of Louisiana and to report its initial findings to the Legislature of Louisiana prior to the 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature and annually thereafter no later than March 1st of each year.

WHEREAS, Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XXII, Section 5(a) provides that a function of the Judicial Council is to continuously study the organization of the courts, the rules, procedures, and practices of the judicial system of the state, as well as of the work accomplished and the results attained by the Judicial Council, and of the uniformity of the exercise of discretionary power of the courts, to the end that procedure may be simplified, business expedited, and justice better administered; and

WHEREAS, as national prosecution standards shift, it would be prudent to examine the caseload data from each district court in the state of Louisiana to determine if judicial resources are being used in the most efficient manner possible; and

WHEREAS, thousands of criminal cases have been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, a criminal case has many stages that include but are not limited to arrest, arraignment, evidentiary hearings, trial, appeals, and sentencing, therefore obtaining and studying the caseload and other data may be beneficial to determine the adequacy and efficiency of the judicial system.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge the Judicial Council to conduct an initial comprehensive study of active felony cases in each district court within every judicial district of the state of Louisiana and to report its initial findings to the Legislature of Louisiana prior to the 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature and annually thereafter no later than March 1st of each year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each annual report shall include the following information:

(1) The number of active felony criminal cases in each division.

(2) For all felony criminal cases filed since January 1, 2020, the percent of cases adjudicated within each of the following time periods:

(a) Six months from the date of arraignment.

(b) One year from the date of arraignment.

(c) Two years from the date of arraignment.

(d) Three or more years from the date of arraignment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the judicial administrator of the Supreme Court of Louisiana for distribution to members of the Judicial Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this Resolution shall be submitted to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

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 101 Original 2022 Regular Session Bacala

Requests the Judicial Council of the Supreme Court of La. to conduct a comprehensive study of active felony cases in each district court within every judicial district of the state and report its initial findings to the Legislature of Louisiana prior to the 2023 R.S. of the Legislature and annually thereafter no later than March 1st of each year.