

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY SENATOR MIZELL

A RESOLUTION

To recreate and continue the work of the Task Force on Human Trafficking Arrests, created by Senate Resolution No. 180 of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, according to the January 2021 annual report on Human Trafficking, Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes, and Commercial Sexual Exploitation, there were more than seven hundred victims reported to the Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services; and

WHEREAS, one contributor to human trafficking is illicit massage parlors, operating with and without proper licensing; and

WHEREAS, despite the high number of reported victims, there have been few arrests of human traffickers and even fewer convictions in the same time period; and

WHEREAS, through Senate Resolution No. 180 of the 2022 Regular Session, the Senate formed a task force to study the disconnect between the number of victims and the number of arrests of traffickers and to make recommendations, together with specific proposals for legislation; and

WHEREAS, while the authority for the task force terminated on February 1, 2023, the efforts of this task force are vitally important and will remain so in the near term, and study and consideration should continue in order to fulfill the task force's purpose.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recreate and provide for the Task Force on Human Trafficking Arrests to study the disconnect between the number of victims and the number of arrests of traffickers, and to study the practices of illegal massage parlors and their contribution to human trafficking.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force, if it deems it necessary or appropriate, may make recommendations or propose legislation, or both, by written report to the Senate and to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library, as required by R.S. 24:771 and 772, no later than February 1, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of the following members:

(1) The senator for District 12, who shall serve as chairperson.

(2) A representative from the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers, appointed by the executive director.

(3) A member of the sex crimes division of Louisiana State Police, appointed by the superintendent.

(4) The executive director of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, or his designee.

(5) A representative of the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission, appointed by the governor.

(6) The director of Caddo Parish Juvenile Services.

(7) A representative of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, appointed by the executive director.

(8) A representative of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, appointed by the president of the organization.

(9) A member of the Louisiana District Judges Association, appointed by the president of the organization.

(10) A member of the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy, appointed by the chairperson of the board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each designating authority shall submit the names of designees to the task force to the chairperson no later than August 1, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall convene for its first meeting no later than September 1, 2023, at the call of the chairperson, and at the first meeting the members shall elect other officers as the task force may deem appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall receive staff support from one or more of the entities from which the task force membership is designated or appointed, at the discretion of the task force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting this study, the task force shall seek input and advice from The Dragonfly Harbor and any other person or entity deemed to have

information pertinent to the study.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the task force shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all official actions of the task force shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be individually entitled as members of their constituent organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on the date of the submission of its report or February 1, 2024, whichever occurs first.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana Alliance of Children's Advocacy Centers, Louisiana State Police, the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, the Louisiana Human Trafficking Prevention Commission, the director of Caddo Parish Juvenile Services, the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, the Louisiana District Judges Association, and the Louisiana Board of Massage Therapy.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE