

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 87

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES OWEN

CORRECTIONS/PRISONERS: Requests the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to provide information on inmate release dates

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to provide information pertaining to incarcerated individuals in the department's custody who have been held beyond their scheduled release dates and to report this information to the legislature no later than October 1, 2023.

WHEREAS, Louisiana has one of the highest incarceration rates in the United States; and

WHEREAS, roughly two hundred inmates are held beyond their legal release dates on any given month in Louisiana, which amounts to two thousand to two thousand five hundred of the twelve thousand to sixteen thousand prisoners freed each year; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, the average length of additional time until an individual's release was around forty-four days with potential waiting periods that could last up to ninety days; and

WHEREAS, from January through April in 2022, twenty-seven percent of the individuals who were legally entitled to be released from state custody were held past their scheduled release dates, with twenty-four percent of those individuals being held for at least ninety days or longer; and

WHEREAS, multiple class action lawsuits have been filed against Louisiana for the failure to release incarcerated individuals on their scheduled release dates.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to provide information

1 pertaining to incarcerated individuals in the department's custody who have been held
2 beyond their scheduled release dates and to report this information to the legislature no later
3 than October 1, 2023.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the information shall contain all of the
5 following:

6 (1) The number of individuals in the department's custody who have been held past
7 their release date within the past year.

8 (2) The number of individuals in the department's custody who have been held past
9 their release date within the past two years.

10 (3) The number of individuals in the department's custody who have been held past
11 their release date within the past five years.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that within the information regarding the number of
13 individuals in the department's custody who have been held beyond their scheduled release
14 dates, the following information shall also be provided:

15 (1) Where these individuals were housed.

16 (2) The number of days these individuals were held beyond their scheduled release
17 dates.

18 (3) The official reason why these individuals were held beyond their scheduled
19 release dates.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
21 secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall submit one print copy and
23 one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this Resolution to the David R.
24 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 87 Original

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