

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 131

BY REPRESENTATIVE BISHOP

A RESOLUTION

To create a commission to study the crime of communicating false information of a planned bombing on school property, at a school-sponsored function, or in a firearm-free zone when the offender is a juvenile and to report its findings to the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice and the House Committee on Education prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana House of Representatives recognizes and acknowledges that school safety is of the highest importance; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 17:416.16 provides relative to school crisis management and response plans, including requirements relative to their preparation, content, review, revision, and rehearsal; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 14:54.6 provides for the crime of communicating false information of planned bombing on school property, at a school-sponsored function, or in a firearm-free zone; and

WHEREAS, the advent of social media can facilitate the communication of a bomb threat from any individual, regardless of age, in any location, and at any time; and

WHEREAS, the communication of a bomb threat, regardless of its veracity, creates panic among students, faculty, and their family members; and

WHEREAS, the communication of a bomb threat creates a strain on emergency services and law enforcement personnel at the local, parish, and state levels due to the seriousness of the claim and the rapid response time needed; and

WHEREAS, an assessment of how often fake bomb threats are communicated to schools within this state can provide for even greater protection of students, faculty, first responders, law enforcement, and the community as a whole.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create a commission to study the crime of communicating false information of a planned bombing on school property, at a school-sponsored function, or in a firearm-free zone when the offender is a juvenile and to report its findings to the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice and the House Committee on Education prior to the convening of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study commission shall be composed of the following members:

- (1) The state superintendent of education, or his designee.
- (2) The executive director of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, or his designee.
- (3) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, or his designee.
- (4) The deputy director of the Office of Juvenile Justice, or his designee.
- (5) The mayor-president of Lafayette Parish, or his designee.
- (6) The adjutant general of the Louisiana Army National Guard, or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first meeting shall be called by the mayor-president of Lafayette Parish, or his designee, by October 1, 2023, and at the first meeting the task force shall elect a chair.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairman and vice chairman of the commission shall be elected by a majority of the commission members at its first meeting, and the members may select other officers as the commission deems appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall meet at such times and places as determined by its chair.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the total membership shall constitute a quorum of the commission, and any official action by the commission shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum present and voting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association shall provide staff support to the commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each of the commission members provided in this Resolution.

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.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES