

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 200

BY SENATOR FOIL

COMMENDATIONS. Commends East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff Sid Gautreaux and the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office Narcotic Division for their exceptional investigative efforts as well as their aggressive arrest and prosecution of fentanyl dealers in the Greater Baton Rouge Metro Area.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate the extraordinary efforts of the East Baton Parish Sheriff Sid
3 Gautreaux and the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office (EBRSO) Narcotic
4 Division for their exceptional investigative efforts as well as their aggressive arrests
5 and prosecution of fentanyl dealers in the Greater Baton Rouge Metro Area.

6 WHEREAS the chief law enforcement officer in the Parish of East Baton Rouge is
7 Sheriff Sid J. Gautreaux III (Sheriff Gautreaux), who was elected in 2007; and

8 WHEREAS, immediately upon being elected to the Office of Sheriff of EBRSO,
9 Sheriff Gautreaux began to prioritize the increase of the narcotics division's investigation of
10 drug dealers who sell a wide variety of lethal drugs and substances (originally, primarily
11 heroin, and now fentanyl and xylazine), which are often mixed with other varieties of "street
12 drugs"; and

13 WHEREAS, shortly after his election, Sheriff Gautreaux noted the influx of heroin
14 distributed and sold in Louisiana's cities, towns, and rural areas, sometimes to be used by
15 intravenous injection, by snorting, or smoking, and frequently the drug users did not know
16 they were consuming heroin, often resulting in a fatal overdose; and

17 WHEREAS, in approximately 2016, a new and extremely powerful drug named
18 "fentanyl" and its analogues began to be detected in toxicology reports of drug overdose

1 victims; and

2 WHEREAS, fentanyl is forty to one hundred times more powerful than morphine and
3 fifty times more powerful than heroin, and fentanyl is used by drug dealers to "amp up" their
4 drug products of all kinds, almost always without the knowledge of the drug buyer; and

5 WHEREAS, when fentanyl became available to drug dealers throughout the state of
6 Louisiana, the number of poisonings and overdose deaths in the state from fentanyl began
7 to increase exponentially and continues to increase exponentially; and

8 WHEREAS, in early 2021, Sheriff Gautreaux met with the commander of the
9 EBRSO narcotics division, Captain Tanner Jenkins, to devise new and enhanced reactive
10 practices, policies, and drug enforcement methods to supplement and enhance the EBRSO's
11 and the narcotics division's existing proactive methods; and

12 WHEREAS, the efforts of Sheriff Gautreaux, Captain Tanner Jenkins, and the
13 EBRSO narcotics division have resulted in numerous drug enforcement and weapons
14 seizures, almost all of which occurred in East Baton Rouge Parish between January 2022 and
15 May 2023, including 24 pounds, 8.6 ounces of fentanyl powder; 110,000 lethal doses of
16 pressed fentanyl pills; 4.865 pounds of heroin; five pounds of cocaine; 2,318 oxycodone
17 tablets; 522 Xanax tablets; 56.9 pounds of methamphetamine; 416 Adderall or amphetamine
18 pills; 25 pill presses; 213 firearms, including machine guns and fully automatic pistols, many
19 of which have been forensically linked to previous murders and shootings; and 201 felony
20 arrests; and

21 WHEREAS, Captain Tanner Jenkins of EBRSO narcotics division testified during
22 the 2023 Regular Session before the House of Representatives Committee on the
23 Administration of Criminal Justice and the Senate Committee on the Judiciary C that the
24 EBRSO narcotics division does not investigate drug users and addicts, but focuses all of its
25 efforts on dealers who sell fentanyl and other deadly drugs to other dealers.

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
27 hereby commends and congratulates the outstanding drug enforcement efforts and operations
28 of Sheriff Gautreaux, the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office, and all of its employees,
29 Captain Tanner Jenkins, commander of the EBRSO narcotics division, and all of its
30 employees, agents, and unnamed personnel.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
2 to Sheriff Sid Gautreaux and Captain Tanner Jenkins.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Whitney Kauffeld.

SR 200 Original	DIGEST 2023 Regular Session	Foil
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Commends the East Baton Rouge Sheriff Sid Gautreaux and the East Baton Rouge Parish Sheriff's Office Narcotic Division on their exceptional investigative efforts as well as their aggressive arrest and prosecution of fentanyl dealers in the Greater Baton Rouge Metropolitan Area.