

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 123

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

LAW ENFORCEMENT. To urge and request law enforcement agencies in Louisiana to use restorative approaches in their efforts to keep the communities they serve safe and healthy.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request law enforcement agencies in Louisiana to use restorative approaches in
3 their efforts to keep the communities they serve safe and healthy.

4 WHEREAS, restorative justice is a victim/survivor-centered method to address harm
5 and wrongdoing; and

6 WHEREAS, restorative justice acknowledges that harm and wrongdoing results in
7 affirmative obligations to victim/survivors and emphasizes accountability and responsibility
8 by whoever caused the harm or committed the wrongdoing; and

9 WHEREAS, restorative justice requires responsible parties to understand the full
10 consequences of their wrongdoing, and that they have an obligation to repair the harm they
11 caused, to the extent possible; and

12 WHEREAS, restorative justice promotes engagement and participation by those who
13 were harmed and those who caused the harm through a facilitated conversation that is
14 preceded by in-depth screening and preparation and results in an agreement about how the
15 harm will be repaired; and

16 WHEREAS, restorative processes can be used as an alternative to, or in conjunction
17 with, the traditional justice system; and

18 WHEREAS, harmed parties who only participate in the traditional justice process

1 often report feeling unsatisfied, ignored, or revictimized; and

2 WHEREAS, harmed parties who participate in restorative processes report feelings
3 of empowerment in the justice process, emotional healing, and less anxiety, distress, and
4 sadness; and

5 WHEREAS, compared to offenders who are punished through the traditional legal
6 system, responsible parties who participate in restorative processes have lower rates of
7 recidivism and accept ownership and responsibility for their actions; and

8 WHEREAS, after participating in a restorative process, all parties perceive their
9 communities as being safer.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
11 does hereby urge and request that law enforcement agencies in this state, including but not
12 limited to police departments, sheriff's offices, district attorneys' offices, and the Department
13 of Public Safety and Corrections, employ the proven practices of restorative justice to create
14 safer, healthier, and happier communities.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.
The keyword, summary, 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)]

	DIGEST	
SR 123 Original	2025 Regular Session	Duplessis

Requests law enforcement agencies in Louisiana to use restorative approaches in their efforts
to keep the communities they serve safe and healthy.