

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 69

BY SENATOR WOMACK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create the Public Projects Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the Louisiana Public Works Act and to evaluate state and local public works policy and procedure relating to public contracts and projects.

WHEREAS, it is critically important to Louisiana to ensure effective and efficient construction, alteration, improvement, or repair of its public facilities and the immovable property owned, used, or leased by public entities in the state; and

WHEREAS, infrastructure development serves as an economic and business development tool for the state, parishes, and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, delays in project delivery and payments made by public entities to general contractors cause subsequent delays and expenses that affect the state, parishes, municipalities, contractors, materialmen, laborers, other service providers, and business generally; and

WHEREAS, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 82 of the 2024 Regular Session established the Public Projects Payment Task Force to study avenues to facilitate and improve the timeliness of payments made by public entities to general contractors; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, the Public Projects Payment Task Force recommended that all elected officials of municipalities and municipal employees whose duties involve procurement activities complete a minimum of one hour of annual training on procurement and the letting of public contracts provided by the legislative auditor; and

WHEREAS, the Public Project Payment Task Force also noted inefficiencies in addition to payment delays, including but not limited to project delivery; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Louisiana to facilitate and improve the timeliness of public works contract payments made by public entities and project delivery to decrease costly delays and to increase productivity statewide.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish and provide for the Public Projects Task Force to perform a holistic study of the

Louisiana Public Works Act, R.S. 38:2241 et seq., and all relevant legal procedures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Projects Task Force shall evaluate the following:

(1) The current public bid law by reviewing contract limits for public works projects and purchase orders.

(2) The parish or municipal infrastructure project delivery by reviewing contract limits for public works and purchase orders.

(3) Any legislative proposals to improve efficiency and timeliness in project delivery.

(4) Current procedural contract approval dates.

(5) Any relevant policies regarding delivery of projects at the state, parish, or municipal level.

(6) The testimony of various stakeholders, including but not limited to the following:

(a) The public works director for St. Tammany Parish, Jefferson Parish, East Baton Rouge Parish, Ascension Parish, or their designees.

(b) The deputy chief administrative officer for infrastructure of the city of New Orleans, or his designee.

(c) The city of Shreveport's city attorney, or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of fifteen members appointed as follows:

(1) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, or his appointed designee, who shall preside as chairman of the task force.

(2) The chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, or his appointed designee.

(3) The chairman of the committee operating as the Joint Legislative Committee for Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

(4) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana Associated General Contractors.

(5) The president of the Louisiana Concrete Association.

(6) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana Asphalt Paving Alliance.

(7) The president of the American Subcontractors Association.

(8) The chief executive officer of the Louisiana Chapter of the Architectural Institute

of America.

(9) The chief executive officer of the Associated Builders and Contractors of Louisiana.

(10) The president of the American Council of Engineering Companies.

(11) The president of the Louisiana Surety Association.

(12) The president of the Police Jury Association of Louisiana, or his appointed designee.

(13) The president of the Louisiana Municipal Association, or his appointed designee.

(14) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, or his appointed designee.

(15) The director of the Office of Facility Planning and Control within the division of administration, or his appointed designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before August 1, 2025, each appointing authority shall submit the names and contact information of the appointed designees to the chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that on or before September 1, 2025, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance, or his appointed designee, shall call and preside over the first task force meeting.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall meet at least twice before December 15, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on the date of the submission of its report or January 31, 2027, whichever occurs first.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations, including but not limited to any specific legislative proposals, to the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Joint Legislative Committee for Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

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

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.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Senate Committee on Finance, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the Joint Legislative Committee for Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES