

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 97

BY SENATOR BROWN

A RESOLUTION

To create and provide for the Southeast Louisiana Task Force for Growth and Opportunity,
to be known as the SEL-GO Group.

WHEREAS, with an anticipated influx of over six thousand construction, direct, and indirect jobs in Louisiana Senate District No. 2, primarily in Ascension, Iberville, St. Charles, St. James, and St. John the Baptist parishes, there is a need to assess the required development and enhancement of human resources, transportation, health care, law enforcement, housing, education, and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, a study is necessary to assess the need for a governmental body tasked to design policy and programs funded by grants and government-approved funds that support the development of human resources, transportation, health care, law enforcement, housing, education, and infrastructure in the region; and

WHEREAS, if it is determined that a governmental body is needed, consideration should be given and recommendations developed regarding the proper role of the governmental body and its governing authority, including its composition, authority, and powers; the organization of the body into units based upon an assessment of the region's immediate needs; sources of funding, including but not limited to the levy of taxes, and financing alternatives, including but not limited to tax increment financing; and ability to engage in cooperative endeavor agreements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish and create the Southeast Louisiana Task Force for Growth & Opportunity which shall be known as the SEL-GO Group.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall assess the need for a governmental body tasked to design policy and programs funded by grants and government-approved funds that support the development of human resources, transportation, health care, law enforcement, housing, education, and infrastructure in the region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that should the task force determine that a governmental body is needed, it shall give consideration to and make recommendations regarding the proper role of the governmental body and its governing authority, including its composition, authority, and powers and the organization of the body into units based upon an assessment of the region's immediate needs; sources of funding, including but not limited to the levy of taxes, and financing alternatives, including but not limited to tax increment financing; and ability to engage in cooperative endeavor agreements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of two representatives from each of the parishes of Ascension, Iberville, St. Charles, St. James, and St. John the Baptist, appointed so that each parish shall be represented by a person residing within the parish on the west side of the Mississippi River and one person residing within the parish on the east side of the Mississippi River, the members to be designated as follows:

(1)(a) From Ascension Parish, one member designated by the Ascension Parish Council and one member designated by the Ascension Parish Economic Development Council.

(b) From Iberville Parish, one member designated by the Iberville Parish Council and one member designated by the Iberville Parish Chamber of Commerce.

(c) From St. Charles Parish, one member designated by the St. Charles Parish Council and one member designated by the St. Charles Parish Economic Development Council.

(d) From St. James Parish, one member designated by the St. James Parish Council and one member designated by the River Region Chamber of Commerce.

(e) From St. John the Baptist Parish, one member designated by the St. John the Baptist Parish Council and one member designated by the River Region Chamber of Commerce.

(2) Each appointing body shall submit the name of its designated member to the Senate President on or before August 1, 2013.

(3) The task force shall hold its organizational meeting on or before September 1, 2013, at the call of the Senator representing Senate District No. 2 and at its organizational meeting, the task force shall elect a chair and vice chair and such other officers as deemed

necessary, provided that the chair and vice chair must be representatives of two different parishes.

(4) No per diem shall be paid to any member for attendance at task force meetings.

(5) The task force shall submit a written report to the Senate on or before February 1, 2014, together with any specific proposals for legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state shall bear no responsibility for providing resources, including funding, staffing, or facilities, to the task force or any governmental body formed pursuant to the recommendations of the task force, unless appropriation is made for that purpose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Ascension Parish President, Ascension Parish Council, Iberville Parish President, Iberville Parish Council, St. Charles Parish President, St. Charles Parish Council, St. James Parish President, St. James Parish Council, St. John the Baptist Parish President, St. John the Baptist Parish Council, Ascension Parish Economic Development Council, Ascension Parish Chamber of Commerce, Iberville Parish Chamber of Commerce, St. Charles Parish Economic Development Council, and River Region Chamber of Commerce.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE