

2016 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY SENATOR BROWN

ROADS/HIGHWAYS. Creates a task force to study the installation and maintenance of lighting on the Sunshine Bridge and the Veteran's Memorial Bridge in Gramercy.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To establish the Bridge Lighting Task Force to study and make recommendations relative
3 to the installation and maintenance of lighting on the Sunshine Bridge and the
4 Veteran's Memorial Bridge near the town of Gramercy, Louisiana; to provide for the
5 membership of the task force; and to require the task force to make recommendations
6 relative to funding mechanisms for installation, energy costs, and maintenance of
7 bridge lighting.

8 WHEREAS, the Sunshine Bridge and the Veteran's Memorial Bridge near the town
9 of Gramercy, Louisiana, both are in need of bridge lighting; and

10 WHEREAS, lighting on state bridges enhances the safety of motorists; and

11 WHEREAS, driving is largely a visual task and the ability to see the roadway ahead
12 and to observe conflicting traffic and the behavior of other bridge users is integral to the
13 driving task; and

14 WHEREAS, lighting significantly improves the visibility of the roadway, increases
15 sight distance, and makes obstacles more noticeable to the driver, and therefore more
16 avoidable; and

17 WHEREAS, bridge lighting is a safety countermeasure that can reduce the number
18 of nighttime crashes where lighting is installed; and

1 WHEREAS, in addition to traffic safety, adequate lighting provides clear benefits
2 in terms of personal security.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
4 establish the Bridge Lighting Task Force to study and make recommendations relative to the
5 installation and maintenance of lighting on the Sunshine Bridge and the Veteran's Memorial
6 Bridge near the town of Gramercy, Louisiana, to study all potential funding mechanisms, to
7 determine the benefits and costs of each funding mechanism, to determine guidelines or
8 criteria for utilization of potential funding mechanisms by the state and its political
9 subdivisions, to determine an approval procedure applicable to the use of the funding
10 mechanisms, and to report all such matters to the house and senate committees on
11 transportation, highways and public works, including recommendations for legislation, if
12 any, relative to available funding mechanisms to install, energize, and maintain lighting on
13 the Sunshine Bridge and the Veteran's Memorial Bridge near the town of Gramercy,
14 Louisiana.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Bridge Lighting Task Force shall be
16 composed of the following members:

17 (1) The senator for Senate District 2 or his designee.

18 (2) The representative for House District 58 or his designee.

19 (3) The representative for House District 81 or his designee.

20 (4) The secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development or his
21 designee.

22 (5) The president of the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission or his designee.

23 (6) The president of the South Louisiana Port Commission or his designee.

24 (7) The president of the parish of Ascension or his designee.

25 (8) The president of the parish of St. James or his designee.

26 (9) The president of the parish of St. John the Baptist or his designee.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this task force shall serve
28 without compensation, except per diem or expense reimbursement to which they may be
29 individually entitled as members of the organizations they represent.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the senator for Senate District 2 or his designee

- (4) The secretary of the Dept. of Transportation and Development or his designee.
- (5) The president of the Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission or his designee.
- (6) The president of the South Louisiana Port Commission or his designee.
- (7) The president of the parish of Ascension or his designee.
- (8) The president of the parish of St. James or his designee.
- (9) The president of the parish of St. John the Baptist or his designee.

Specifies that the members of the task force serve without compensation, except for reimbursement or per diem they are individually entitled to as members of the organization they represent. Names the senator for Senate District 2 or his designee as the chairman and the representative for House District 58 or his designee as the vice chairman. Provides that the names of the members shall be submitted to the chairman of the task force by Aug. 1, 2016, and that the chairman shall call the first meeting of the task force no later than Sept. 15, 2016.