

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

LAW ENFORCEMENT: Creates a task force to study and make recommendations concerning the use of body cameras by law enforcement agencies in this state

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To create the Louisiana Law Enforcement Body Camera Implementation Task Force to
3 study and make recommendations regarding the requirements for implementation
4 and development of best procedures for the use of the body cameras and policies for
5 access to and use of body camera recordings by law enforcement agencies in this
6 state, and to provide for a written report of its recommendations and findings not
7 later than sixty days prior to the 2017 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

8 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Law Enforcement Body Camera Task Force was
9 originally created by House Concurrent Resolution No. 180 of the 2015 Regular Session and
10 it is being re-created by this Resolution to continue its work; and

11 WHEREAS, in order to safeguard the public and peace officers of this state, it is
12 vital for local peace officers and the communities they protect to have strong, collaborative
13 relationships; and

14 WHEREAS, trust between law enforcement agencies and the citizens they serve is
15 essential to the stability of communities, the integrity of the criminal justice system, and the
16 safe and effective delivery of public safety services; and

17 WHEREAS, the implementation of the use of body cameras by all law enforcement
18 agencies will assist in preventing and resolving complaints brought by members of the
19 public against peace officers, strengthening law enforcement transparency, performance, and
20 accountability, and the documentation of evidence; and

1 WHEREAS, the use of video footage might discourage citizens from filing
2 unfounded complaints against officers, which could save the agencies a significant amount
3 of time and funds that would otherwise be spent on lengthy investigations and lawsuits; and

4 WHEREAS, body cameras may assist law enforcement agencies in identifying and
5 correcting problems within those agencies by using footage from the cameras to provide
6 scenario-based training, evaluate the performance of new officers in the field, and identify
7 new areas in which training may be needed.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby re-
9 create the Louisiana Law Enforcement Body Camera Implementation Task Force to study
10 and make recommendations regarding the requirements for implementation and development
11 of best procedures for the use of the body cameras and rules for access to and use of body
12 camera recordings by law enforcement agencies in this state.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this task force shall consist of 17 members and
14 be composed of the following:

- 15 (1) The chair of the House Committee on Judiciary.
- 16 (2) The chair of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B.
- 17 (3) The attorney general or his designee.
- 18 (4) The state public defender or his designee.
- 19 (5) The president of the Louisiana District Attorney's Association or his designee.
- 20 (6) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association or his designee.
- 21 (7) The president of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police or his designee.
- 22 (8) The president of the Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police or his designee.
- 23 (9) A representative of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana.
- 24 (10) A district court judge designated by the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme
25 Court.
- 26 (11) A representative of the Louisiana State University Police Department.
- 27 (12) A representative of the Southern University Police Department.
- 28 (13) A representative of the National Association of the Advancement of Colored
29 People.

1 (14) A member of the public who is a law enforcement officer in a municipality that
2 currently utilizes body cameras as designated by the governor.

3 (15) A mayor or city-parish president representing an urban municipality as
4 designated by the Louisiana Municipal Association.

5 (16) A mayor or city-parish president representing a suburban municipality as
6 designated by the Louisiana Municipal Association.

7 (17) The superintendent of Louisiana State Police or his designee.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all appointments to the task force made pursuant
9 to House Concurrent Resolution No. 180 of 2015 shall continue to serve on the task force.
10 Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments. The members of
11 the task force shall serve without compensation.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the membership of the task force
13 shall constitute a quorum and shall elect the chairman of the task force at its first meeting.
14 The task force shall meet at the call of the chairperson or upon an affirmative vote of a
15 majority of the task force. All members must be notified in writing of all meetings at least
16 five days before the date on which a meeting of the task force is scheduled.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chair shall call an initial meeting of the task
18 force no later than October 1, 2016, and hold meetings at the times and in the places it may
19 deem appropriate and necessary to fulfill its charge. The task force shall be entitled to call
20 its assistance and avail itself of the services of the employees of any state or municipal
21 department, agency, or board as it may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall meet no less than two times.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may seek the advice of experts,
24 such as persons specializing in the fields of criminology, psychology, education, criminal
25 or family law, or other related fields as deemed appropriate by the membership of the task
26 force.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall prepare and submit a final
28 report that contains a detailed statement of the findings and policy recommendations of the
29 task force to the governor, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House of
30 Representatives, the chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, the chairman of the

1 Senate Committee on Judiciary B, and the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court not
2 later than sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2017 Regular Session of the Legislature
3 of Louisiana and that such recommendations shall include but not be limited to those relative
4 to the following:

5 (1) General guidelines for the proper use, maintenance, and storage of body cameras,
6 which shall include recommendations on procedures for when the body camera shall be in
7 recording mode.

8 (2) Any limitations on the situations in which peace officers are permitted to wear
9 body cameras.

10 (3) General guidelines for the proper storage, retention, and release of audio and
11 video data recorded by body cameras.

12 (4) General guidelines regarding the law enforcement training relative to each law
13 enforcement agency's policies and procedures on the use of body cameras.

14 (5) Legislation needed, if any, to authorize the use of body cameras by peace officers
15 in this state.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be abolished upon
17 submission of the report.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the
19 appointing entities named in this Resolution.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HCR 59 Original

2016 Regular Session

Marcelle

Re-creates the Louisiana Law Enforcement Body Camera Implementation Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the requirements for implementation and development of best procedures for the use of the body cameras, and to provide for a written report of its recommendations and findings not later than sixty days prior to the 2017 R.S.