

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY

COURTS: Requests the Louisiana State Law Institute to study issues regarding contempt of court

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the issues of contempt of
3 court, open proceedings, and parties which should be protected from any such open
4 court proceedings, and to submit a written report of its findings with
5 recommendations relative to amending Louisiana law relative to open court hearings
6 for contempt of court charges in Louisiana.

7 WHEREAS, Louisiana has a presumption in favor of open court proceedings; and

8 WHEREAS, contempt of court proceedings are open to the public except in limited
9 circumstances where certain persons, including children and crime victims, require
10 protection from the additional intrusion that open court proceedings present; and

11 WHEREAS, there is a need to balance the public interest in open court proceedings
12 with the need to protect certain individuals from such intrusion.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
14 urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to examine and analyze the applicable
15 laws for open court proceedings in Louisiana, to study the applicable laws regarding
16 contempt of court proceedings, and to make recommendations relative to the need for
17 changes to Louisiana law with respect to whether contempt of court proceedings must be
18 held in open court.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall also make
20 recommendations relative to exceptions and exclusions to the conducting of contempt
21 proceedings in open court.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall submit
2 a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Judiciary Committee and
3 the Senate Committee on Judiciary C no later than sixty days prior to the 2018 Regular
4 Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
6 to the director of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

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 103 Original

2016 Regular Session

Hilferty

Requests the La. State Law Institute to study the laws regarding contempt hearings and open court proceedings and to make recommendations as to whether contempt proceedings must be held in open court.