

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Commends municipalities for the creation of independent police monitoring divisions

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To commend local municipalities for the future creation of an independent police  
3 monitoring division to be headed by an independent police monitor.

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature believes creating strong relationships between  
5 the citizens of this state and law enforcement is a priority; and

6 WHEREAS, there has been an increase in officer-involved incidents covered in the  
7 media across the country. "Officer-involved incidents" are defined as any incident in which  
8 serious bodily injury or death of another individual is caused by a peace officer acting under  
9 the authority of the state or a political subdivision of the state; and

10 WHEREAS, there is a need for complete transparency and accountability between  
11 law enforcement officers and communities they serve; and

12 WHEREAS, the creation of the independent police monitoring division is intended  
13 to foster an environment ensuring a law enforcement agency's accountability, transparency,  
14 and responsiveness to the community it serves; and

15 WHEREAS, the independent police monitor shall be an attorney with credentials  
16 either including experience in criminal, civil rights, labor law, or corporate or governmental  
17 investigations, or at least five years experience in law enforcement oversight; and

18 WHEREAS, the independent police monitor shall possess integrity, sound judgment,  
19 and the ability to relate effectively with all citizens including but not limited to, residents of  
20 and visitors to Louisiana as well as the ability to work collaboratively with all law  
21 enforcement agencies and state and local governments; and

1           WHEREAS, the independent police monitor shall be responsible for receiving  
2 complaints alleging misconduct by law enforcement agencies; and

3           WHEREAS, the independent police monitor shall have the ability to review  
4 classification of all internal investigations and in the event the independent police monitor  
5 believes an investigation was misclassified, he may recommend that it be reclassified; and

6           WHEREAS, the independent police monitor shall have the ability to recommend the  
7 re-opening of an internal investigation if he determines that the investigation was not  
8 conducted in a thorough or fair manner; and

9           WHEREAS, the independent police monitor shall evaluate trends and patterns  
10 relating to civil claims and lawsuits alleging misconduct and complaints; and

11           WHEREAS, the independent police monitor shall compile data regarding  
12 commendations and shall identify officers, units, and precincts which have been commended  
13 by the public for doing exceptional work; and

14           WHEREAS, this commendation is being introduced in advance of, and in lieu of,  
15 legislation in a good faith effort to save taxpayer dollars and allow for state's rights to trickle  
16 to the most intimate and lowest level of government.

17           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
18 commend local municipalities for the creation of an independent police monitoring division  
19 to be headed by an independent police monitor.

20           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each independent police monitor shall make a  
21 public report once a year and shall provide a copy of the report to the legislature by the  
22 thirty-first of January of each year.

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
24 to the Louisiana Municipal Association and the Police Jury Association of Louisiana for  
25 distribution to their respective local government membership.

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)]

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HCR 103 Original

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Marcelle

Commends local municipalities for the future creation of an independent police monitor division to be used to foster a strong relationship between local law enforcement and the communities that they serve.