

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE