

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 198

BY REPRESENTATIVE MINCEY

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) to study the process for sheriffs and parish presidents entering emergency requests in the Web Emergency Operations Center (WebEOC) during declared emergencies.

WHEREAS, the WebEOC is the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Crisis Management System; and

WHEREAS, the WebEOC supports emergency management processes and functions by providing a real-time common operating picture for FEMA headquarters and regions, as well as for federal, state, territory, and tribal partners; and

WHEREAS, the system provides multitiered situational awareness of incident support and management activities, including, but not limited to, significant event tracking, resource request processing, resource tracking, and incident action plan development; and

WHEREAS, under state law, the governor, GOHSEP, the director of GOHSEP, the parish president, the director of the Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and the Municipality Chief Executive Officer have roles and responsibilities throughout the emergency management cycle; and

WHEREAS, the parish president is responsible for homeland security and emergency preparedness in the parish; and

WHEREAS, upon a declaration of emergency, powers of the parish president are the same as the governor, but limited to parish jurisdiction including the power to request assistance from GOHSEP when disaster response and recovery are beyond the capability of the parish to address.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to study the process for dual authority of the parish president and sheriff to request assistance during a declaration of emergency.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study requested in this Resolution, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness shall submit guidelines and recommendations to prevent duplicated requests for assistance to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than January 8, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness shall submit one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this Resolution to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES