Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE STUDY REQUEST NO. 11

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROSSETT

LAW ENFORCE/OFFICERS:  Requests a study of retention rates and salaries of police officers employed by the New Orleans Police Department

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| 1 | A STUDY REQUEST |
| 2 | To the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to study retention |
| 3 | rates and salaries of police officers employed by the New Orleans Police Department |
| 4 | in comparison with police officers employed by similarly sized municipal police |
| 5 | departments in surrounding parishes and in other states and to report its findings to |
| 6 | the House of Representatives prior to the convening of the 2014 Regular Session of |
| 7 | the Legislature of Louisiana. |
| 8 | WHEREAS, the citizens in many areas of the state of Louisiana are enduring a spike |
| 9 | in violent, deadly crime as in New Orleans which is faced with one of the highest per capita |
| 10 | murder rates in the country; and |
| 11 | WHEREAS, members of the New Orleans Police Department provide a vital public |
| 12 | service by playing an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the city's |
| 13 | citizens; and |
| 14 | WHEREAS, these brave individuals selflessly put themselves in harm's way to assure |
| 15 | the safety of the lives and property of the citizens of New Orleans; and |
| 16 | WHEREAS, due to expanding law enforcement responsibilities and decreasing |
| 17 | resources, maintaining a highly qualified and motivated police workforce has become one |
| 18 | of the greatest challenges facing law enforcement agencies today; and |
| 19 | WHEREAS, providing a competitive level of compensation is essential for the long- |
| 20 | term viability of the New Orleans Police Department as this will allow the department to |
| 21 | attract qualified people, get them to stay, and motivate them to higher levels of performance; |
| 22 | and |

1      WHEREAS, the New Orleans Police Department and the United States Justice

2    Department are currently engaged in court proceedings regarding a consent decree which

3    will require the police department to overhaul its policies and procedures for use of force,

4    training, interrogations, searches and arrests, recruitment, and supervision; and

5      WHEREAS, it is imperative that the New Orleans Police Department employ and

6    retain highly qualified and motivated police officers as the city of New Orleans attracts

7    conventioneers and tourists from all over the world, and the city is a major driver of the

8    state's economy and the state's national reputation; and

9      WHEREAS, many similarly sized municipal police departments in surrounding

10   parishes and in other states are able to offer more competitive compensation packages to

11   their officers which in turn makes it more difficult for the New Orleans Police Department

12   to attract and retain highly qualified officers.

13     THEREFORE, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana requests

14   the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to study retention rates

15   and salaries of police officers employed by the New Orleans Police Department in

16   comparison with police officers employed by similarly sized municipal police departments

17   in surrounding parishes and in other states and to report its findings to the House of

18   Representatives prior to the convening of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of

19   Louisiana.

20     A copy of this Study Request shall be transmitted to the New Orleans City Council.

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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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Brossett                                                                      HSR No. 11

Requests the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to study retention rates and salaries of police officers employed by the New Orleans Police Department in comparison with police officers employed by similarly sized municipal police departments in surrounding parishes and in other states and to report its findings prior to the 2014 R.S.