

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 31

BY SENATOR MARIONNEAUX AND REPRESENTATIVE THIBAUT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Joint Task Force 7 law enforcement counter-terrorism group, hereinafter referred to as "JTF7," composed of East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Ascension, Iberville, West Feliciana, East Feliciana, and Pointe Coupee Parish Sheriffs' offices.

WHEREAS, the JTF7 is composed of Sheriff Sid Guatreux of East Baton Rouge Parish, Sheriff Mike Caze of West Baton Rouge Parish, Sheriff Jeff Wiley of Ascension Parish, Sheriff Brent Allain of Iberville Parish, Sheriff Austin Daniels of West Feliciana Parish, Sheriff Talmadge Bunch of East Feliciana Parish, and Sheriff Beauregard Torres III of Pointe Coupee Parish; and

WHEREAS, the JTF7 enumerated sheriff offices have homeland security responsibilities for the Baton Rouge area, which is rated a Group 1 security risk; and

WHEREAS, the Group 1 security risk is based on the Baton Rouge area having the largest fuel refinery in the United States, two large bridges crossing the Mississippi River, a large nuclear energy plant, numerous chemical plants, the third largest port in the United States, home of state and parish governments, and two universities with student populations that exceed thirty thousand persons; and

WHEREAS, the JTF7 was formed with the intention to cooperatively work on the implementation of the project, goals, and security measures surrounding the above described areas and other objectives the JTF7 deem relevant; and

WHEREAS, the JTF7 provides special response teams to react to any terrorist event and to put into place recovery teams through collaborative efforts of all seven sheriff offices along with the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Louisiana State Police, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Secret Service, and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the JTF7 works to create community awareness, provide monitoring of sensitive facilities, and provide necessary personnel and equipment to respond to any terrorist incident in the geographical area covered by the seven sheriff offices.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the formation and efforts of JTF7 in their proactive methods eliminating the financing of terrorism; suppressing the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support of terrorists; sharing information with other governments on any groups practicing or planning terrorist acts; cooperating with other entities in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in such acts; elimination of active and passive assistance for terrorism; and bringing violators to justice.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the seven respective sheriff offices representing the JTF7 including East Baton Rouge Parish, West Baton Rouge Parish, Ascension Parish, Iberville Parish, West Feliciana Parish, East Feliciana Parish, and Pointe Coupee Parish.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES