

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 164

BY SENATOR WILLARD-LEWIS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to study alternatives and enhancements in the enforcement of litter laws and ordinances.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature recognizes that the need for the control and reduction of litter is an integral part of a statewide beautification program to enhance the tourist, recreational, and economic development of the state and its parishes and municipalities; and

WHEREAS, while any littering poses a visual blight and potential harm to public health and safety, "gross littering" which is defined in state law as intentionally disposing or permitting the disposal of any household or office furniture or appliances, automotive parts, including but not limited to tires and engines, trailers, boats and boating accessories, tools and equipment, building materials, roofing nails, and bags or boxes of household or office garbage or refuse upon any public place in the state, upon private property in this state not owned by him, upon property located in rural areas in this state not owned by him, or in or on the waters of this state, whether from a vehicle or otherwise, including but not limited to any public highway, public right-of-way, public park, beach, campground, forest land, recreational area, trailer park, highway, road, street, or alley, except when such property is designated by the state or by any of its agencies or political subdivisions for the disposal of such items and such person is authorized to use such property for such purpose, is particularly harmful; and

WHEREAS, gross littering is currently defined in state law as a crime with graded penalties based upon the number of offenses; and

WHEREAS, nevertheless, littering continues to be a major and ongoing problem in many municipalities and parishes throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, legislation was considered during the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana which would have offered additional sanctions in the enforcement of gross littering violations, particularly Senate Bill No. 270.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to study alternatives and enhancements in the enforcement of litter laws and ordinances.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the conduct of this study, the committee shall seek input and advice of the following:

- (1) The Louisiana Municipal Association.
- (2) The Police Jury Association of Louisiana.
- (3) The Louisiana Litter Reduction and Public Action Commission.
- (4) The litter reduction and public action section of the Department of Environmental Quality.
- (5) Keep Louisiana Beautiful.
- (6) The Louisiana District Attorneys Association.
- (7) The Sierra Club.
- (8) The governing authority of Jefferson Parish.
- (9) The governing authority of the city of New Orleans.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall submit a report, together with any recommendations for legislation, to the Senate on or before March 1, 2012.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE