

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 176

BY SENATOR HEITMEIER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to convene a work group comprised of representatives of the office of state police of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, the Gretna Police Department, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, the New Orleans Police Department, the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office, and the Westwego Police Department to review and analyze the policies, procedures and practices of the DOTD's Crescent City Connection Division police department to determine whether the Crescent City Connection Division police department is providing services in the most effective and cost efficient manner and to report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works by February 1, 2011.

WHEREAS, the Crescent City Connection is the economic and transportation life-line connecting the east and west banks of New Orleans and Jefferson Parish; and

WHEREAS, approximately one hundred seventy thousand vehicles cross the two spans of the Crescent City Connection on the average day; and

WHEREAS, the safety of all persons using these bridges is paramount; and

WHEREAS, the Crescent City Connection Division of DOTD employs a twenty-eight member police department assigned to patrol and respond to emergencies on the Crescent City Connection bridges and the roadways leading to the bridges; and

WHEREAS, it is logical that law enforcement professionals in the immediate geographic area who routinely interact and interface with the DOTD's Crescent City Connection Division police department are in the best position to evaluate and provide constructive insight on the division's current operations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development is hereby urged and requested to convene a work group comprised of representatives of the office of state police of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, the Gretna Police Department, the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office, the New Orleans Police Department, the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff's Office, and the Westwego Police Department to review and analyze the policies, procedures and practices of the DOTD's Crescent City Connection Division police department to determine whether the Crescent City Connection Division police department is providing services in the most effective and cost efficient manner and to report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works by February 1, 2011.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Crescent City Connection Division Working Group is hereby created and shall be composed of the following members which shall be appointed no later than July 15, 2010:

- (1) The secretary of the DOTD or his designee.
- (2) The colonel of the office of state police of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections or his designee.
- (3) The chief of police for the Gretna Police Department or his designee.
- (4) The sheriff of Jefferson Parish or his designee.
- (5) The chief of police for the New Orleans Police Department or his designee.
- (6) The sheriff of Plaquemines Parish or his designee.
- (7) The chief of police for the Westwego Police Department or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOTD shall convene the initial meeting of the working group no later than August 1, 2010, and the Crescent City Connection Division Working Group shall provide for the manner and frequency of meetings that will be conducted and for all other ancillary administrative matters which must be determined in order to function as a working group. The work group shall be staffed by DOTD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Crescent City Connection Division Working Group shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works no later than February 1, 2011 and such working group shall officially terminate upon submission of the report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the DOTD; the colonel of the office of state police for the Department of Public Safety and Corrections; the chief of the Gretna Police Department; the sheriff of Jefferson Parish; the chief of the New Orleans Police Department; the sheriff of Plaquemines Parish; and the chief of Westwego Police Department.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE