ENROLLED

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 180

BY REPRESENTATIVE HONORE AND SENATOR BROOME

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create the Louisiana Law Enforcement Body Camera Implementation Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the requirements for implementation and development of best procedures for the use of the body cameras and policies for access to and use of body camera recordings by law enforcement agencies in this state, and to provide for a written report of its recommendations and findings not later than sixty days prior to the 2016 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

ORIGINATED

IN THE

House of Representatives

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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To create the Louisiana Law Enforcement Body Camera Implementation Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the requirements for implementation and development of best procedures for the use of the body cameras and policies for access to and use of body camera recordings by law enforcement agencies in this state, and to provide for a written report of its recommendations and findings not later than sixty days prior to the 2016 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

WHEREAS, in order to safeguard the public and peace officers of this state, it is vital for local peace officers and the communities they protect to have strong, collaborative relationships; and

WHEREAS, trust between law enforcement agencies and the citizens they serve is essential to the stability of communities, the integrity of the criminal justice system, and the safe and effective delivery of public safety services; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the use of body cameras by all law enforcement agencies will assist in preventing and resolving complaints brought by members of the public against peace officers, strengthening law enforcement transparency, performance, and accountability, and the documentation of evidence; and

WHEREAS, the use of video footage might discourage citizens from filing unfounded complaints against officers, which could save the agencies a significant amount of time and funds that would otherwise be spent on lengthy investigations and lawsuits; and

WHEREAS, body cameras may assist law enforcement agencies in identifying and correcting problems within those agencies by using footage from the cameras to provide scenario-based training, evaluate the performance of new officers in the field, and identify new areas in which training may be needed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create the Louisiana Law Enforcement Body Camera Implementation Task Force to study and make recommendations regarding the requirements for implementation and development of best procedures for the use of the body cameras and rules for access to and use of body camera recordings by law enforcement agencies in this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of 22 members and be composed of the following:

(1) The chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary.

(2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B.

(3) The attorney general or his designee.

(4) The state public defender or his designee.

(5) The president of the Louisiana District Attorney's Association or his designee.

(6) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association or his designee.

(7) The president of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police or his designee.

(8) The president of the Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police or his designee.

(9) A representative of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana.

(10) A district court judge designated by the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

(11) A representative of the Louisiana State University Police Department.

(12) A representative of the Southern University Police Department.

(13) A representative of the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People.

(14) A member of the public who is a law enforcement officer in a municipality that currently utilizes body cameras as designated by the governor.

(15) A mayor or city-parish president representing an urban municipality as designated by the Louisiana Municipal Association.

(16) A mayor or city-parish president representing a suburban municipality as designated by the Louisiana Municipal Association.

(17) The superintendent of Louisiana State Police or his designee.

(18) The secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections or his designee.

(19) The president of the Louisiana Association of Broadcasters or his designee.

(20) The president of the Louisiana Press Association or his designee.

(21) The president of the Senate or his designee.

(22) The speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all appointments to the task force shall be made within thirty days after adjournment of this legislature in the 2015 Regular Session. Vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments. The members of the task force shall serve without compensation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the membership of the task force shall constitute a quorum and shall elect the chairman of the task force at its first meeting. The task force shall meet at the call of the chairperson or upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the task force. All members must be notified in writing of all meetings at least five days before the date on which a meeting of the task force is scheduled.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chair shall call an initial meeting of the task force no later than October 1, 2015, and hold meetings at the times and in the places it may deem appropriate and necessary to fulfill its charge. The task force shall be entitled to call its assistance and avail itself of the services of the employees of any state or municipal department, agency, or board as it may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall meet no less than two times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may seek the advice of experts, such as persons specializing in the fields of criminology, psychology, education, criminal or family law, or other related fields as deemed appropriate by the membership of the task force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall prepare and submit a final report that contains a detailed statement of the findings and policy recommendations of the task force to the governor, the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House of Representatives, the chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, the chairman of the Senate Committee on Judiciary B, and the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court not later than thirty days prior to the beginning of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana and that such recommendations shall include but not be limited to those relative to the following:

(1) General guidelines for the proper use, maintenance, and storage of body cameras, which shall include recommendations on procedures for when the body camera shall be in recording mode.

(2) Any limitations on the situations in which peace officers are permitted to wear body cameras.

(3) General guidelines for the proper storage, retention, and release of audio and video data recorded by body cameras.

(4) General guidelines regarding law enforcement training relative to each law enforcement agency's policies and procedures on the use of body cameras.

(5) Legislation needed, if any, to authorize the use of body cameras by peace officers in this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be abolished upon submission of the report.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the appointing entities named in this Resolution.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE