A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To suspend provisions in the Louisiana Civil Code, the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, the Louisiana Children's Code, Titles 14, 15, 32, 40, and 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and any other provision of law which establishes deadlines in legal proceedings, including all prescriptive and peremptive periods in all courts, administrative agencies, and boards in any manner pertaining to the initiation, continuation, prosecution, defense, appeal, and post-conviction relief of any prosecution of any state or municipal criminal, juvenile, wildlife, or traffic matter within the state for a period not to exceed sixty days after final adjournment of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, a novel coronavirus named "coronavirus disease 2019", commonly referred to as COVID-19, was first detected in Wuhan City, Hubei Province China, in December of 2019; and

WHEREAS, the coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that are common in people and many different animal species; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is a respiratory illness that has a broad range of symptoms from mild, flu-like symptoms to severe breathing difficulties that result in death; and

WHEREAS, at present there is no vaccine to protect against COVID-19, there is a high probability of widespread exposure, and the disease poses an imminent threat to Louisiana citizens; and
WHEREAS, as of March 16, 2020, Louisiana reports 114 COVID-19 cases and two deaths from the virus; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of Louisiana declared a statewide public health emergency on March 11, 2020, due to the risks related to public health associated with the COVID-19 coronavirus; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 49:969 provides that the "legislature, by Concurrent Resolution, may suspend, amend, or repeal any rule or regulation or body of rules or regulations, or any fee or any increase, decrease, or repeal of any fee, adopted by a state department, agency, board, or commission"; and

WHEREAS, the interest of equal access to justice under the laws of the state of Louisiana is vital to our citizens and their government; therefore the citizens of Louisiana should not face the passage of legal deadlines due to a statewide public health emergency.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby suspend the provisions of the Louisiana Civil Code, the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, the Louisiana Children's Code, Titles 14, 15, 32, 40, and 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and any other provision of law which establishes deadlines in legal proceedings, including all prescriptive and peremptive periods in all courts, administrative agencies, and boards in any manner pertaining to the initiation, continuation, prosecution, defense, appeal, and post-conviction relief of any prosecution of any state or municipal criminal, juvenile, wildlife, or traffic matter within the state for a period not to exceed sixty days after final adjournment of the 2020 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that pursuant to the Governor of the State of Louisiana's Declaration of a Public Health Emergency in Proclamation Number JBE 2020-25; and further, pursuant to the governor of the state of Louisiana's Additional Measures for COVID-19 Public Health Emergency in Proclamation Number JBE 2020-27; and further, in consideration of the recommendations of the Chief Justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court on March 12, 2020, which has resulted in significant statewide cancellation of jury terms and court date availability, the Legislature of Louisiana shall suspend provisions in the Louisiana Civil Code, the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, the Louisiana Children's Code, Titles 14, 15, 32, 40, and 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and any other
provision of law which establishes deadlines in legal proceedings, including but not limited
to all prescriptive and peremptive periods in all courts, administrative agencies, and boards
in any manner pertaining to the initiation, continuation, prosecution, defense, appeal, and
post-conviction relief of any prosecution of any state or municipal criminal, juvenile,
wildlife, or traffic matter within the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this temporary suspension shall not apply to the

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is expressly acknowledged that this Resolution
is neither intended to nor shall impact any constitutional provisions of law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this suspension shall become effective upon
adoption of this Resolution and shall remain in effect as provided in this Resolution, except
that the suspensions established in this Resolution shall be shortened or eliminated upon an
order issued by the Louisiana Supreme Court.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
to the administrator of the Louisiana Supreme Court.

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)]

Suspends provisions of law which establish deadlines in legal proceedings, including all
prescriptive and peremptive periods in all courts, administrative agencies, and boards in any
manner pertaining to the initiation, continuation, prosecution, defense, appeal, and post-
conviction relief of any prosecution of any state or municipal criminal, juvenile, wildlife, or
traffic matter within the state for a specified period of time.