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2019 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 51

BY SENATOR MORRELL

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH. Creates the Louisiana Task Force on Lead-Free Water.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To create and provide for the Louisiana Task Force on Lead-Free Water to study the
3	problem of lead contamination in state and local water systems and recommend any
4	action or legislation that the task force deems necessary.
5	WHEREAS, the delivery of safe water is essential to the health and welfare of each
6	and every citizen and the single most important duty that a government owes its people; and
7	WHEREAS, lead is a naturally occurring metal but when ingested, it can accumulate
8	in the body and cause a variety of health complications such as developmental issues,
9	increased cancer risk, severe damage to the nervous system, reproduction system and other
10	organs, as well as high blood pressure and anemia; and
11	WHEREAS, there is no level of lead exposure that is considered safe to humans; and
12	WHEREAS, despite its dangers, lead is still being found in many water systems
13	throughout the state, mainly because of an aging infrastructure consisting of pipes made
14	from lead; and
15	WHEREAS, there are an estimated fifty-thousand lead lines in Louisiana, and many
16	of these are located in the lines that link municipal systems to homes; and
17	WHEREAS, there is no greater urgency than ensuring that the people of Louisiana
18	are being delivered water free of lead contamination.

1	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana creates the Task
2	Force on Lead-Free Water to study the problem of lead contamination in state and local
3	water systems and recommend any action or legislation that the task force deems necessary.
4	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force created herein shall consist of the
5	following nine members:
6	(1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee, who shall
7	serve as the chairperson of the task force.
8	(2) The secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality or his designee.
9	(3) The chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee.
10	(4) The chair of the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs or his designee.
11	(5) The chair of the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs or his
12	designee.
13	(6) The chair of the House Committee on Health and Welfare or his designee.
14	(7) The chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means or his designee.
15	(8) The chair of the House Committee on Local, Municipal, and Parochial Affairs
16	of his designee.
17	(9) The governor of Louisiana or his designee.
18	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting such study, the task force shall
19	study current law, policy, and efforts in Louisiana and other states to eliminate lead
20	contamination from water systems, work with local governments to ensure the transition
21	from lead pipes to safe alternatives, establish a time line for such upgrades, and shall
22	recommend any action or legislation that the commission deems necessary or appropriate.
23	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve
24	without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be
25	individually entitled as members of the constituent organizations.
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the total membership shall
27	constitute a quorum of the task force, and any official action taken by the task force shall
28	require an affirmative vote of the majority of the quorum present and voting.
29	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force may conduct such meetings at
30	such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and

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1 effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this 2 Resolution. 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall report its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, to the legislature no later 4 than sixty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session. 5 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on March 1, 2021. 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 8 governor of Louisiana, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health, and the

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by McHenry Lee.

DIGEST 2019 Regular Session

Morrell

SCR 51 Original

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Creates the Louisiana Task Force on Lead-Free Water to study the problem of lead contamination in water systems.

Provides for the task force membership and its powers and duties.

secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality.