HLS 201ES-382 ENGROSSED

2020 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 36

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE MAGEE

INSURANCE COMMISSIONER: Requests the House Committee on Insurance to study and make recommendations regarding the effects of making the commissioner of insurance an appointed position

A RESOLUTION

2 To authorize and direct the House Committee on Insurance, or a subcommittee thereof, to 3 meet and to study and make recommendations regarding the effects of changing the 4 position of commissioner of insurance from an elected position to an appointed 5 position, including the effects it may have on Louisiana's insurance market and the 6 cost of insurance to Louisiana consumers, and to report the findings to the House of 7 Representatives no later than February 1, 2021. 8 WHEREAS, Title 22 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, known and cited as 9 the Louisiana Insurance Code, creates the office of the commissioner of insurance; and 10 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Insurance Code provides that the commissioner of 11 insurance shall be an elected position with a term of four years to coincide with the election 12 for governor and other state officers; and 13 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Insurance Code contains provisions which charge the 14 commissioner of insurance with administering the provisions of the Louisiana Insurance 15 Code, including requiring the commissioner to assess every insurer under the jurisdiction of 16 the Department of Insurance and authorizing the commissioner to make reasonable rules and 17 regulations, as provided by law, to enforce, carry out, and make effective the implementation 18 of the Louisiana Insurance Code; and

1 WHEREAS, Louisiana, for two years in a row, has finished last, with a grade of "F" 2 in the R Street Institute's annual grading of the insurance regulatory environment in each of 3 the fifty states; and 4 WHEREAS, Louisiana is an outlier as one of twelve out of the fifty-six members of 5 the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, comprised of the fifty states and the 6 District of Columbia and five United States territories, which has an elected insurance 7 commissioner; and 8 WHEREAS, Louisiana remains a state that politicizes regulation with an elected 9 insurance commissioner; and 10 WHEREAS, Louisiana has the second-highest auto insurance rates in the United 11 States; and 12 WHEREAS, a comprehensive examination of the regulation of insurance in 13 Louisiana would benefit Louisiana's insurance market and Louisiana consumers. 14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 15 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the House Committee on 16 Insurance, or a subcommittee thereof, to meet to study the effects of making the 17 commissioner of insurance an appointed position, including the effects it would have on 18 Louisiana's insurance market and the cost of insurance to Louisiana consumers. 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House Committee on Insurance, or a 20 subcommittee thereof, may seek input from various agencies and organizations and may 21 request research, documents, or data, conduct public hearings, and take any other actions it 22 deems necessary to carry out its functions. 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House Committee on Insurance, or a 24 subcommittee thereof, shall report its findings and any recommendations for legislative 25 changes to the House of Representatives no later than February 1, 2021.

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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)]

HR 36 Engrossed

2020 First Extraordinary Session

Magee

Directs the House Committee on Insurance to meet and study what the effects would be of changing the position of commissioner of insurance from elected to appointed, including what effects it would have on Louisiana's insurance market and the cost of insurance to Louisiana consumers.