HLS 202ES-596

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 28

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

HOUSING: Requests the House Committee on Judiciary to study how to mitigate the long term consequences of eviction records and rent debt on renters and this economy

1	A RESOLUTION		
2	To urge and request the House Committee on Judiciary to meet and study how to mitigate		
3	the long-term consequences of eviction records and rent debt on renters and the		
4	economy, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic and its resulting		
5	unemployment crisis.		
6	WHEREAS, COVID-19 has sparked an unprecedented unemployment crisis		
7	resulting in hundreds of thousands of Louisianans losing income through no fault of their		
8	own; and		
9	WHEREAS, the National Council of State Housing Agencies estimates that the		
10	unemployment crisis will have prompted Louisiana renters to accrue two hundred eighty-one		
11	million dollars to three hundred ninety-four million dollars in rent debt and face one hundred		
12	forty thousand evictions by January 1, 2021, and these impacts are expected across the state		
13	in rural and urban areas; and		
14	WHEREAS, the American Bar Association's House of Delegates passed a resolution		
15	in August of 2020, urging state legislatures to exempt from tenant screening processes		
16	evictions filed during and immediately following the pandemic; and		
17	WHEREAS, large data aggregation and tenant screening companies often use		
18	automated systems to compile "risk" scores for prospective tenants that are presented with		
19	little context and have resulted in hundreds of lawsuits over the past ten years due to		
20	inaccuracies; and		

- 1 WHEREAS, House Bill 46 of the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session sought to seal 2 COVID-19 related eviction records in order to help renters have a fair chance at finding a 3 new home after an eviction; and 4 WHEREAS, House Bill 62 of the 2020 Second Extraordinary Session sought to ensure rent debt acquired during the COVID-19 emergency was not reported to consumer 5 6 reporting agencies; and 7 WHEREAS, the housing instability associated with eviction and denial of a home 8 results in long-term poor health outcomes, unemployment, academic decline, and downward 9 movement to substandard, overcrowded housing that may exacerbate the spread of 10 COVID-19, and this instability also results in costs for communities and society in the form 11 of higher healthcare expenditures and increased costs to tax payers for relief programs. 12 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 13 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the House Committee on Judiciary 14 to meet and study how to mitigate the long-term consequences of eviction records and rent 15 debt on renters and the economy. 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall make a written report of its
- 17 findings along with any specific proposals for legislation to the legislature on or before
- 18 March 1, 2021.

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 28 Original	2020 Second Extraordinary Session	James
----------------	-----------------------------------	-------

Requests the House Committee on Judiciary to study how to mitigate the long-term consequences of eviction records and rent debt on renters and the economy.