

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 107

BY REPRESENTATIVE WRIGHT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create and provide for a joint subcommittee to be comprised of members from the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, the House Committee on Commerce, the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to examine and study port infrastructure strategies.

WHEREAS, ports impact every region of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has thirty-three ports and harbors located in the state; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana contains three of the most important waterways in the world: the Mississippi River, the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, and the Calcasieu Ship Channel; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River is the backbone of the nation's water commerce; and

WHEREAS, the five ports on the lower Mississippi collectively make up the largest port complex in the world; and

WHEREAS, more than five million tons of cargo is handled by ports on the lower Mississippi River annually; and

WHEREAS, more than sixty percent of the nation's grain and twenty percent of petroleum and energy commodities are handled by Louisiana ports each year; and

WHEREAS, coastal ports support more than ninety percent of the nation's offshore oil and gas production in the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, inland ports are the economic engines of their local economies and produce thousands of jobs in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana ports create five hundred twenty-five thousand jobs or one-in-five jobs in the state; and

WHERE, Louisiana ports are responsible for thirty-two billion nine hundred million in annual personal earnings, more than two billion four hundred million in state taxes and one billion, eight hundred million local taxes; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development and Louisiana Economic Development determined for every one dollar invested in port infrastructure eight dollars is returned to Louisiana coffers; and

WHEREAS, a purposeful and strategic approach to ports investments would benefit Louisiana's economic future and the future of Louisiana families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create a joint subcommittee of the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, the House Committee on Commerce, the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works, and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs to examine and study strategies to implement in order to capitalize on Louisiana's competitive advantage in port infrastructure.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint subcommittee shall be comprised of the following members:

- (1) Two representatives from the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (2) Two representatives from the House Committee on Commerce appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.
- (3) Two senators from the House Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works appointed by the president of the Senate.
- (4) Two senators from the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs appointed by the president of the Senate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint subcommittee shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the legislature prior to the convening of the 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE