

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 267

BY REPRESENTATIVES FIRMENT, BAYHAM, BUTLER, CARRIER, DEWITT,
DICKERSON, FONTENOT, FREIBERG, ILLG, MIKE JOHNSON, MACK,
MCFARLAND, AND SCHAMERHORN

A RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to fund the
sheriffs' offices in the parishes where the Kisatchie National Forest is located.

WHEREAS, the Kisatchie National Forest spans seven parishes in Louisiana
including Claiborne, Grant, Natchitoches, Rapides, Vernon, Webster, and Winn parishes
with a total of six hundred eight thousand four hundred eighty-seven acres; and

WHEREAS, the Kisatchie National Forest is owned and managed by the United
States federal government; and

WHEREAS, despite the United States federal government's ownership of the
Kisatchie National Forest, local Louisiana parish sheriffs' offices patrol the forest and
respond to emergency calls; and

WHEREAS, the local oversight of the Kisatchie National Forest is a substantial
burden to the local sheriffs' offices; and

WHEREAS, Payments in Lieu of Taxes, referred to as "PILT", are federal payments
that help local governments offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable federal land
within their boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the amount of funding available for national forests is roughly four
hundred thousand dollars; and

WHEREAS, the available funding is not sufficient for the patrol of the Kisatchie
National Forest which is a substantial financial burden on the local sheriffs' offices; and

WHEREAS, PILT payments would help the parishes where the Kisatchie National
Forest is located to patrol the forest and respond to emergency calls.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to fund local sheriffs' offices in order to properly and efficiently patrol the Kisatchie National Forest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States Congress and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES