

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 202

BY SENATOR BARROW

TECHNOLOGY. Creates a task force to study the effectiveness of technology and research parks and to make recommendations on its findings.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To create and provide for the Task Force on Technology and Research Parks to study and  
3 make recommendations on the effectiveness of technology and research parks.

4 WHEREAS, in the early 80s, the Legislature of Louisiana envisioned research parks  
5 to be where technology-based businesses could seek need of capital for pre-start up, startup,  
6 survival, the expansion stage, new product development, or similar business purposes that  
7 engage in or intend to provide technology-based products or services in information  
8 technology, communications, or medical, biomedical, advanced materials, food,  
9 environmental, or micro-manufacturing technologies, or those that are determined by the  
10 secretary of the Louisiana Economic Development; and

11 WHEREAS, from that vision, several Louisiana research parks were established  
12 around the state, including but not limited to the Louisiana Technology Park, the University  
13 of New Orleans Research and Technology Park, the University Research Park in Lafayette,  
14 and the InterTech Science Park in Shreveport; and

15 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Technology Park, located in Baton Rouge, serves as a  
16 comprehensive catalyst for the internet economy, focused on growing technology-related  
17 startup companies, providing high-speed, high-volume commercial data storage and swift,  
18 direct internet connectivity; and

1           WHEREAS, the UNO Research and Technology Park provides the opportunity for  
2 commercial and governmental enterprises to avail themselves of the resources of a major  
3 research university, including its faculty and students, in a technologically advanced and  
4 scenic setting; additionally, UNO offers a wide range of opportunities for academic and  
5 scientific collaboration with world-class departments from naval architecture to  
6 biotechnology; and

7           WHEREAS, the University Research Park in Lafayette sits on a 143-acre research  
8 campus that is designed to be a catalyst for innovation and economic development that  
9 serves the region, state, and nation; the park includes laboratories; offices and facilities for  
10 basic and applied research, testing, and consulting; and specialized facilities such as an  
11 immersive visualization complex and a technology incubator; and

12           WHEREAS, the InterTech Science Park is an 800-acre urban science and technology  
13 park located in Shreveport, Louisiana and provides its tenants with access to academic  
14 facilities, researcher, core equipment laboratories, animal care, multi-tenant wet lab, and  
15 office space, land for building, venture capital, business planning assistance, and financial  
16 incentives; and

17           WHEREAS, since its inception of creating research parks in Louisiana, the  
18 legislature has rarely been given information on how effective and beneficial the parks have  
19 been to the state.

20           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
21 does hereby establish and provide for the Task Force on Technology and Research Parks to  
22 study and to propose recommendations together with specific proposals for legislation, on  
23 the effectiveness of technology and research parks, by written report to the Senate  
24 Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs no later than  
25 March 1, 2026.

26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force should include consideration of  
27 the following:

28           (1) The number of businesses that have utilized the research parks since January  
29 2020.

30           (2) The amount of funds that have been invested in those businesses.

1           (3) The number of those businesses that met the requirement of a "disadvantage  
2 business" as defined in R.S. 51:1923.

3           (4) The number of those businesses that are still operating in Louisiana.

4           (5) The number of those businesses that are no longer operating in Louisiana.

5           (6) The names and locations of all other research parks in Louisiana.

6           (7) The names of the research parks that have been most successful in assisting  
7 businesses and the reasoning for their success.

8           (8) The names of the research parks that have been the least successful in assisting  
9 businesses and the reasoning for their struggles.

10          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of the following  
11 members:

12          (1) The president of the Senate, or his designee, who shall serve as the chairman of  
13 the task force.

14          (2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and  
15 International Affairs, or his designee.

16          (3) The secretary of Louisiana Economic Development, or his designee.

17          (4) The president of the Louisiana State University System, or his designee.

18          (5) The president of the Southern University System, or his designee.

19          (6) The president of the University of Louisiana System, or his designee.

20          (7) The president of the Louisiana Technical and Community Colleges System, or  
21 his designee.

22          (8) The president of Louisiana Business and Industry, or his designee.

23          (9) A member of the Louisiana Small Business Association.

24          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each designating authority shall submit the  
25 names of designees to the task force to the secretary of the Senate no later than August 15,  
26 2025.

27          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the task force shall convene for its first meeting no  
28 later than September 15, 2026, at the call of the chairman, and at the first meeting, the  
29 members shall elect officers as the task force may deem appropriate.

30          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be staffed by the Senate

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the task force shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All official actions of the task force shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the members.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be individually entitled as members of their constituent organizations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that meetings of the task force shall be subject to the Open Meetings Law, R.S. 42:11 et seq., and records of the task force shall be subject to the Public Records Law, R.S. 44:1 et seq.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on the date of the submission of its report or June 1, 2025, whichever occurs first.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Louisiana Economic Development, the president of the Louisiana State University System, the president of the Southern University System, the president of the University of Louisiana System, the president of the Louisiana Technical and Community Colleges System, the president of Louisiana Business and Industry, and the Louisiana Small Business Association.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST		
SR 202 Original	2025 Regular Session	Barrow
Creates the Task Force on Technology and Research Parks to study and to propose recommendations, together with specific proposals for legislation, on the effectiveness of technology and research parks.		