

1 WHEREAS, there is no presumption of parentage if the mother is unmarried at the
2 time the child is born; and

3 WHEREAS, R.S. 9:392(A)(3) provides that if the alleged father does not
4 acknowledge the child, the mother has the right to file a paternity suit to establish paternity;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the presumption of paternity could cause harm to families; and

7 WHEREAS, many families cannot afford court costs to establish paternity and suing
8 to establish paternity could be an undue burden; and

9 WHEREAS, it may be in the best interest of Louisiana families to not have a
10 presumption of paternity.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
12 authorize and direct the Louisiana State Law Institute to study filiation and the presumption
13 of paternity to determine if it is feasible to remove the presumption of paternity and to report
14 its findings to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than February 1, 2027.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
16 director of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall submit
18 one printed copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this Resolution
19 to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

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)]

HCR 19 Original

2026 Regular Session

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Directs the La. State Law Institute to study filiation proceedings and the feasibility of removing the presumption of paternity.

Requires the La. State Law Institute to provide a written report of its findings to the legislature no later than Feb. 1, 2027.