

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 145

BY SENATOR HODGES

A RESOLUTION

To recreate and provide for the Task Force on Protecting Louisiana's Critical Infrastructure from Foreign Adversaries to study real-world threats that foreign adversaries pose to Louisiana's critical infrastructure, including threats to our United States' military bases, oil and gas production and refining facilities, industrial manufacturing plants, energy generation infrastructure, and agriculture and food production lands.

WHEREAS, Senate Resolution No. 204 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana created the Task Force on Protecting Louisiana's Critical Infrastructure from Foreign Adversaries; and

WHEREAS, in a recent interview by Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Kash Patel stated that over the last several years that an alarming number of parcels of land and buildings that are surrounding United States' military bases have been bought by foreign adversaries, including Russian citizens and members of the Chinese Communist Party; and

WHEREAS, on June 3, 2025, Director Kash Patel also announced that a Chinese national, who allegedly expressed loyalty to the Chinese Communist Party and was funded by the Chinese government, reportedly smuggled a dangerous biological pathogen into the United States as an act of agroterrorism; and

WHEREAS, the biological pathogen that Director Patel referred to is a fungus that causes a disease known as "head blight" which infects wheat, barley, corn, and rice and can cause significant health issues in both humans and livestock and is responsible for billions of dollars in economic losses worldwide each year; and

WHEREAS, Director Patel also stated that, while the federal government has a role to play in protecting our nation from the threats imposed by the Chinese Communist Party efforts to infiltrate American institutions, critical infrastructure, and our food supply, each state must also take proactive measures to address these concerns in order to protect state infrastructures from the Chinese Communist Party's actions; and

WHEREAS, the People's Republic of China (PRC) is a one-party rule nation that is

controlled by the Chinese Communist Party; and

WHEREAS, on April 18, 2024, former Federal Bureau of Investigation Director Christopher Wray stated that the PRC "has made it clear that it considers every sector that makes our society run as fair game in its bid to dominate on the world stage, and that its plan is to land low blows against a civilian infrastructure to try to induce panic and break America's will to resist"; and

WHEREAS, in the same speech, Former Director Wray stated that "the PRC's targeting of our critical infrastructure is both broad and unrelenting" and that the PRC is working to "give itself the ability to physically wreak havoc on our critical infrastructure at a time of its choosing"; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of compromising this infrastructure is "to cause real-world harm to American citizens and communities in an event of conflict" between the United States and the PRC, according to Wray; and

WHEREAS, this real-world harm directly threatens Louisianians because Louisiana is home to a significant number of the United States' military bases, oil and gas production and refining facilities, industrial manufacturing plants, energy generation infrastructure, and agriculture and food production lands; and

WHEREAS, study and more work is needed to protect Louisiana's critical infrastructure from foreign threats, in particular threats from the Russian government and the Chinese Communist Party.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish and provide for the Task Force on Protecting Louisiana's Critical Infrastructure from Foreign Adversaries to study real-world threats that foreign adversaries pose to Louisiana's critical infrastructure, including threats to our United States' military bases, oil and gas production and refining facilities, industrial manufacturing plants, energy generation infrastructure, and agriculture and food production lands, and to propose recommendations, together with specific proposals for legislation, which may be done by written report to the Senate and to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:771 and 772, no later than February 15, 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force should include consideration of

the threats imposed on Louisiana's United States military bases, oil and gas production and refining facilities, industrial manufacturing plants, energy generation infrastructure, and agriculture and food production.

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

(1) The senator who represents Senate District 13, who shall serve as chairman.

(2) Two members of the Senate who are appointed by the president of the Senate.

(3) The superintendent of the Louisiana State Police, or his designee.

(4) The Senate President Pro Tempore, or her designee.

(5) The director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, or his designee.

(6) The attorney general, or his designee.

(7) The special agent in charge of the New Orleans field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, or his designee.

(8) The special agent in charge of the New Orleans field office of the United States Secret Service, or his designee.

(9) The officer in charge of the Baton Rouge office of the United States Department of Homeland Security, or his designee.

(10) The adjutant general of the Louisiana Army National Guard, or his designee.

(11) The member of the House of Representatives who represents District 30, who shall be appointed and serve if authorized by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each designating authority shall submit the names of designees to the task force to the senator who represents Senate District 13 no later than August 15, 2026.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting this study the task force will seek input, advice, information, and data from any persons, agencies, entities, or stakeholders that it deems necessary to fulfill the purposes of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting this study the task force may request staff support from the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana.

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 the task force shall terminate on the date in the event of a submission of its report or March 1, 2027, whichever occurs first.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the superintendent of the Louisiana State Police, the director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the attorney general, the special agent in charge of the New Orleans field office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the special agent in charge of the New Orleans field office of the United States Secret Service, the officer in charge of the Baton Rouge office of the United States Department of Homeland Security, and the adjutant general of the Louisiana Army National Guard.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE