



1           WHEREAS, any consideration of expropriation in this context must be undertaken  
2 with appropriate safeguards including clear statutory authority, due process protections, and  
3 a demonstrated public purpose consistent with state law; and

4           WHEREAS, the strategic location of the subject area, including proximity to major  
5 transportation corridors and port-related infrastructure, presents potential opportunities for  
6 economic development compatible with surrounding land uses; and

7           WHEREAS, a comprehensive and transparent study is necessary to evaluate whether  
8 a coordinated public approach to land assembly, environmental remediation, and  
9 redevelopment would serve the best interests of residents of New Orleans East and the state  
10 of Louisiana.

11           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
12 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create the Expropriation and Acquisition for Strategic  
13 Transformation (E.A.S.T.) Task Force to study the legal feasibility, procedural requirements,  
14 costs, and public benefits associated with the feasibility of expropriating and redeveloping  
15 certain vacant, blighted, or undeveloped properties in New Orleans East and to report its  
16 findings and recommendations to the legislature by March 1, 2027.

17           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall prioritize approaches that  
18 utilize publicly owned and tax-adjudicated properties, encourage voluntary acquisition where  
19 feasible, limit expropriation to properties that are vacant, abandoned, or legally determined  
20 to be blighted, and ensure that any use of expropriation serves a clear and documented public  
21 purpose.

22           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature recommends that the task force  
23 include consideration of the following:

24           (1) Applicable constitutional and statutory provisions governing expropriation in this  
25 state.

26           (2) Limitations on expropriation for economic development purposes.

27           (3) Requirements for establishing and documenting blight or public necessity.

28           (4) Due process requirements and procedural safeguards.

29           (5) Mapping and classification of parcels including tax-adjudicated properties.

30           (6) Prevalence of heirs' property and clouded title issues.

- 1 (7) Mechanisms for quieting title and facilitating lawful acquisition.
- 2 (8) Methods for determining fair market value.
- 3 (9) Procedures for depositing compensation into the registry of the court.
- 4 (10) Administrative considerations for resolving competing ownership claims.
- 5 (11) Extent of illegal dumping and environmental hazards.
- 6 (12) Estimated costs of remediation and site preparation.
- 7 (13) Opportunities for state and federal environmental funding support.
- 8 (14) Feasibility of developing a business park or similar economic use.
- 9 (15) Compatibility with existing zoning and land use plans.
- 10 (16) Infrastructure requirements, including transportation and utilities.
- 11 (17) Potential roles of state and local entities in land assembly and redevelopment.
- 12 (18) Feasibility of utilizing a public redevelopment authority or similar structure.
- 13 (19) Phased approaches prioritizing voluntary acquisition and adjudicated properties.
- 14 (20) Assessment of potential impacts on nearby residents.
- 15 (21) Recommendations to ensure that any proposed actions do not displace residents
- 16 of occupied residential properties.
- 17 (22) Strategies for community engagement and transparency.

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

- 20 (1) The mayor of the city of New Orleans or her designee.
- 21 (2) One member appointed by the United States representative who represents  
22 Louisiana's second congressional district.
- 23 (3) One member appointed by the state senator who represents Senate District  
24 No. 1.
- 25 (4) One member appointed by the state senator who represents Senate District  
26 No. 3.
- 27 (5) One member appointed by the state senator who represents Senate District  
28 No. 4.
- 29 (6) One member appointed by the state representative who represents House District  
30 No. 99.

1 (7) One member appointed by the state representative who represents House District  
2 No. 100.

3 (8) One member appointed by the chair of the House Committee on Civil Law and  
4 Procedure.

5 (9) The state representative who represents House District No. 100.

6 (10) One member appointed by the New Orleans City Council member representing  
7 council District E.

8 (11) One member appointed by the New Orleans City Council member-at-large for  
9 Division 1.

10 (12) One member appointed by the New Orleans City Council member-at-large for  
11 Division 2.

12 (13) One member appointed by the East New Orleans Neighborhood Advisory  
13 Commission.

14 (14) One member appointed by the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New  
15 Orleans.

16 (15) One member appointed by the American Planning Association Louisiana  
17 Chapter.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state representative who represents House  
19 District No. 100 shall serve as chair of the task force.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each designating authority shall submit the  
21 names of designees to the task force to the chair no later than September 4, 2026.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall convene for its first meeting  
23 no later than October 5, 2026, at the call of the chair.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislative assistant for the state  
25 representative who represents House District No. 100 shall provide staff support to the task  
26 force.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the task force constitutes a quorum  
28 for the transaction of business. All official actions of the task force require the affirmative  
29 vote of a majority of the members.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rules of Order of the House of  
2 Representatives or applicable Joint Rules shall apply to all meetings of the task force.

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

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

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate following the  
10 conclusion of its business or March 1, 2027, whichever occurs first.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
12 mayor of the city of New Orleans and the New Orleans City Council.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of  
14 its findings and recommendations to the House of Representatives of the Legislature of  
15 Louisiana no later than March 1, 2027, and shall include any proposed legislation necessary  
16 to implement the recommendations.

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

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#### 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)]

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HR 307 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Dana Henry

Creates the Expropriation and Acquisition for Strategic Transformation (E.A.S.T.) Task Force to study the legal feasibility, procedural requirements, costs, and public benefits associated with the potential expropriation and redevelopment of certain vacant and blighted properties in New Orleans East. Requires the task force to report its findings and recommendations to the legislature by March 1, 2027.