

First Extraordinary Session, 2005

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25

BY REPRESENTATIVE DORSEY

PUBLIC SFTY/CORRECT DEPT: Provides with respect to emergency plans for displaced sex offenders

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate rules
3 in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to establish a plan to be
4 implemented in times of emergency with regard to convicted sex offenders who are
5 on supervised probation or parole.

6 WHEREAS, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck the southern portion of the state of
7 Louisiana with such ferocity that over a thousand lives were lost, property was destroyed,
8 and thousands of people were displaced from their homes for an indefinite period of time;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, because of the magnitude of the devastation caused by the two
11 hurricanes, an unprecedented number of people living in the affected areas of the state had
12 to travel throughout the state and throughout the nation to find shelter; and

13 WHEREAS, some of those persons displaced by the two hurricanes were
14 probationers and parolees with the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, and among
15 them were convicted sex offenders; and

16 WHEREAS, the department established phone lines for displaced probationers and
17 parolees to call to notify the department of their whereabouts, but the department was not
18 able to locate all missing persons; and

19 WHEREAS, immediately following the landfalls of these two hurricanes, there were
20 severe disruptions of all modes of communication which made contact between the

1 Department of Public Safety and Corrections and those persons supervised by the
2 department extremely difficult; and

3 WHEREAS, many times the law enforcement officials who visited emergency
4 shelters were unable to obtain a list of evacuees housed in those shelters to compare with the
5 state sex offender database to determine if the sex offenders were living in those shelters;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, in 1992, the Louisiana Legislature enacted legislation to require
8 convicted sex offenders to register with local law enforcement officials, having determined
9 that the protection of the public from sex offenders is a paramount governmental interest;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the state of Florida has promulgated emergency plans to provide shelter
12 to supervised sex offenders; and

13 WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Corrections requires such offenders to
14 provide the department with the address of an alternate location should the need arise to
15 evacuate their primary residence, requires some offenders to report to a designated sex
16 offender shelter in some circumstances, and requires offenders to report to a state
17 correctional facility in other circumstances; and

18 WHEREAS, for the protection of the citizens of Louisiana, it is imperative that the
19 law enforcement community know the location of the convicted sex offenders who are
20 displaced in an emergency situation.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
22 urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate rules in
23 accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to establish a plan to be implemented in
24 times of emergency or disaster with regard to convicted sex offenders who are on supervised
25 probation or parole.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge
27 and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate such rules on or
28 before June 1, 2006.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
30 to the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

Dorsey

HCR No. 25

Requests the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to promulgate rules in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to establish a plan to be implemented in times of emergency with regard to convicted sex offenders who are on supervised probation or parole.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill.

1. Requests DPS&C to promulgate such rules on or before June 1, 2006.