

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 168

BY REPRESENTATIVE LORUSSO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create a study committee to study and make recommendations with respect to the implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act.

WHEREAS, approximately forty-eight million people, or one in six Americans, get sick, one hundred twenty-eight thousand are hospitalized, and three thousand die each year from foodborne diseases, according to recent data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, this is a significant public health burden that is largely preventable; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has a world-renowned culture known for its unique cuisine and products and a deep commitment to safety and quality; and

WHEREAS, the passage of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) created historic changes in food safety law on a national scale by authorizing increased enforcement capability for the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA), creating more accountability for farmers, and mandating enhanced partnerships between the FDA and state and local regulatory authorities; and

WHEREAS, the FSMA builds a formal system of collaboration with other government agencies, both domestic and foreign, in recognition that all food safety agencies need to work together in an integrated way to achieve our public health goals.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create a study committee, composed of members as hereinafter provided, to study and make recommendations to the legislature with respect to the implementation of the FDA Food Safety Modernization Act.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study committee shall be composed of the following members:

(1) The assistant secretary of the office of public health of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee.

(2) A representative from the sanitarian services division of the office of public health of the Department of Health and Hospitals appointed by the assistant secretary of the office of public health.

(3) The commissioner of agriculture or his designee.

(4) The president of the Louisiana Restaurant Association or his designee.

(5) The president of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry or his designee.

(6) The executive director of the Louisiana Retailers Association or his designee.

(7) The president of the Louisiana Oil Marketers and Convenience Store Association or his designee.

(8) The president of the Louisiana Public Health Institute or his designee.

(9) One member representing the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center appointed by the vice president for Agriculture.

(10) One member representing the Southern University Agricultural Center appointed by the chancellor of the center.

(11) One member of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

(12) One member of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate.

(13) One member appointed by the chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare.

(14) One member appointed by the chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

(15) The executive director of the Louisiana Meat Processors Association or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the study committee shall serve without compensation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the assistant secretary of the office of public health of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee shall serve as chair of the

study committee and shall convene the first meeting of the committee no later than September 1, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals shall designate staff of the department to assist the study committee in performing its duties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study committee shall meet as necessary and shall report its findings to the legislature not later than January 30, 2015.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE