

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 178

BY SENATOR JOHNS

SANITARY CODE. Creates a study committee to study and make recommendations with respect to the implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act.

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 economic contribution of Louisiana agriculture and agricultural products is valued at over \$12 billion; 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, the United States Department of Agriculture, and state and local regulatory authorities; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has significantly expanded the economic potential of the local

1 food economy through its farmers and ranchers; and

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

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

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

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

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

16 (3) The commissioner of agriculture and forestry or his designee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7           (16) One member representing the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation appointed by  
8           the president of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation.

9           (17) One member representing the Louisiana Fruit and Vegetable Grower's  
10          Association appointed by the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.

11          (18) One member representing the Louisiana Pecan Growers' Association appointed  
12          by the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.

13          (19) One member representing a Louisiana farmers' market appointed by the  
14          commissioner of agriculture and forestry.

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

17          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the assistant secretary of the office of public  
18          health of the Department of Health and Hospitals or his designee and the commissioner of  
19          agriculture and forestry or his designee shall serve as co-chairs of the study committee and  
20          shall convene the first meeting of the committee no later than September 1, 2014.

21          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Department of Health and  
22          Hospitals and the commissioner of agriculture and forestry shall designate staff of their  
23          respective departments to assist the study committee in performing its duties.

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

26          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall be deemed to supercede  
27          House Concurrent Resolution No. 168 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Legislature of  
28          Louisiana.

29          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
30          assistant secretary of the office of public health of the Department of Health and Hospitals,

1 the commissioner of agriculture and forestry, the president of the Louisiana Restaurant  
2 Association, the president of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, the  
3 executive director of the Louisiana Retailers Association, the president of the Louisiana Oil  
4 Marketers and Convenience Store Association or his designee, the president of the Louisiana  
5 Public Health Institute, the vice president for Agriculture of the Louisiana State University  
6 Agricultural Center, the chancellor of the Southern University Agricultural Center, the  
7 executive director of the Louisiana Meat Processors Association or his designee, and the  
8 president of the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

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#### DIGEST

Johns

SCR No. 178

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

Provides that the study committee be composed of the following members:

- (1) The assistant secretary of the office of public health of DHH or his designee.
- (2) A representative from the sanitarian services division of the office of public health of the DHH appointed by the assistant secretary of the office of public health.
- (3) The commissioner of agriculture and forestry or his designee.
- (4) The president of the La. Restaurant Association or his designee.
- (5) The president of the La. Association of Business and Industry or his designee.
- (6) The executive director of the La. Retailers Association or her designee.
- (7) The president of the La. Oil Marketers and Convenience Store Association or his designee.
- (8) The president of the La. Public Health Institute or his designee.
- (9) One member representing the LSU 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.
- (12) One member of the Senate appointed by the president.
- (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 La. Meat Processors Association or his designee.
- (16) One member representing the La. Farm Bureau Federation appointed by the federation president.
- (17) One member representing the La. Fruit and Vegetable Grower's Association appointed by the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.
- (18) One member representing the La. Pecan Growers' Association appointed by the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.
- (19) One member representing a La. farmers' market appointed by the commissioner of agriculture and forestry.

Provides that the members of the committee shall serve without compensation.

Provides that the assistant secretary of the office of public health or his designee and the commissioner of agriculture and forestry or his designee shall serve as co-chairs of the committee and shall convene the first meeting of the committee no later than September 1, 2014.

Provides that the DHH secretary and the commissioner of agriculture and forestry shall designate staff of their respective departments to assist the study committee in performing its duties.

Provides that the committee shall meet as necessary and shall report its findings to the legislature not later than January 30, 2015.

Provides that this Resolution shall be deemed to supercede HCR 168 of the 2014 RS.