

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 117

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHANEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the Children's Code Committee of the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the issue of restitution in delinquency cases and to report its findings, including any recommendations for legislative changes, to the Legislature of Louisiana prior to the convening of the 2016 Regular Session.

WHEREAS, an effective juvenile justice system should incorporate mechanisms to promote the reparation of harm inflicted upon victims and communities when a child has committed a delinquent act; and

WHEREAS, restitution can be an important part of a restorative process of repairing harm and making victims whole; and

WHEREAS, parental engagement is critical in promoting strong outcomes for children in the juvenile justice system, including desistence from further delinquency; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the positive role that restitution can play in a high-functioning juvenile justice system, the legislature wishes to study the possibility of amending the Children's Code to provide for the possibility of parental restitution in certain delinquency cases; and

WHEREAS, the law governing the prosecution and imposition of consequences for delinquent acts is complex, and any changes to the law would benefit from careful and comprehensive study, taking into account the needs of victims, the rights of parents and children, and the important public interests that underlie the juvenile justice system, including protecting due process, preserving families, and promoting child well-being.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the Children's Code Committee of the Louisiana State Law Institute to study the issue of restitution in delinquency cases, including the issue of parental restitution

in certain delinquency cases, and to report its findings to the Legislature of Louisiana, including any recommendations for legislative changes as are appropriate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report be submitted to the Legislature of Louisiana prior to the convening of the 2016 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute work in conjunction with and obtain input from all stakeholders deemed appropriate by the Children's Code Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana State Law Institute.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE