
SENATE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2016 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senator Martiny to Original Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 32 by Senator Colomb

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 2, after "To" delete the remainder of the line and delete lines 3 through 17
3 and insert:

4 "urge and request the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House
5 of Representatives to study the feasibility of providing closed captioning of
6 legislative proceedings that occur in the State Capitol.

7 WHEREAS, hearing loss is among the most common problems in our
8 population, with more than ten percent of Americans suffering from some
9 sort of hearing impairment; and

10 WHEREAS, closed captioning allows persons with hearing impairments to
11 have access to television programming by displaying the audio portion of a
12 television program as text on the television screen; and

13 WHEREAS, currently there is audio and video of the legislative proceedings
14 occurring in Senate and House committee rooms; and

15 WHEREAS, currently there is audio and video of the legislative proceedings
16 occurring in the Senate and House Chamber; and

17 WHEREAS, the same such curiosity should be extended to constituents so
18 that they are privy to legislative proceedings and may be actively involved
19 in the legislative process; and

20 WHEREAS, the first use of closed captioning on televisions in America
21 began in 1980; and

22 WHEREAS, the Television Decoder Circuitry Act of 1990 was passed by
23 Congress giving the Federal Communications Commission the power to
24 enact rules on the implementation of closed captioning; and

25 WHEREAS, it is important that we utilize technology in the most efficient
26 way to enhance communication with constituents that are hearing impaired
27 so that they will have equal access to the political process; and

28 WHEREAS, the stated purpose of the Americans with Disabilities Act
29 (ADA) is to provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the
30 elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities; and

31 WHEREAS, to achieve the goals of the ADA, state government services
32 must be equally accessible to individuals with disabilities; and

33 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana provides internet streamed legislative
34 sessions and hearings, but fails to offer closed captioning for the hearing
35 impaired; and

36 WHEREAS, there are nearly 2,804,831 deaf citizens, and over 78,451
37 citizens with hearing impairments in Louisiana who could benefit from
38 closed captioning.

1 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does
2 hereby urge and request the president of the Senate and the speaker of the
3 House of Representatives to study the feasibility of providing closed
4 captioning of legislative proceedings that occur in the State Capitol."

5 AMENDMENT NO. 2

6 On page 2, delete lines 1 through 19