

2016 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON

COURTS/DISTRICT: Requests the continued funding of reentry courts in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the continued funding of reentry courts in Louisiana to reduce
3 recidivism and improve outcomes for offenders re-entering society.

4 WHEREAS, in 2012, the Louisiana House of Representatives of the Legislature of
5 Louisiana recognized the critical need to reduce recidivism in the criminal justice system
6 and, as a result, created reentry courts by Act No. 399 of the 2012 Regular Session of the
7 Louisiana Legislature; and

8 WHEREAS, reentry courts are specialized courts that improve public safety through
9 the use of judicial oversight; and

10 WHEREAS, over time, the Louisiana Legislature created thirteen reentry courts to
11 address the needs of offenders, who will eventually re-enter society, by providing skills,
12 training, education, and counseling while the offender is still incarcerated; and

13 WHEREAS, upon release, reentry courts closely supervise offenders, provide links
14 to social services, and monitor the transition of offenders back into society through extensive
15 case management; and

16 WHEREAS, a key element of the success of reentry courts is job placement for the
17 offender upon release from prison, which requires the support and assistance of local
18 businesses and communities; and

19 WHEREAS, the ultimate goal of reentry courts is for offenders to successfully re-
20 enter society upon release and become a productive citizen; and

1 WHEREAS, the recidivism rates for reentry court participants are significantly less
2 than the average rate of recidivism which will result in increased savings to the criminal
3 justice system and a decrease in the crime rate in Louisiana over time; and

4 WHEREAS, given the current fiscal condition of the state, it would be of great
5 benefit to provide continued funding to reentry courts in Louisiana.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
7 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the continued funding of reentry
8 courts in Louisiana to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for offenders re-entering
9 society.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
11 Louisiana Supreme Court.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Requests the continued funding of reentry courts throughout La. to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for offenders re-entering society.