

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONDS

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES: Creates and provides for the Louisiana Election Integrity Task Force

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To adopt House Rule 6.27 of the Rules of Order of the House of Representatives to create
3 and provide for the Louisiana Election Integrity Task Force and to repeal House Rule
4 6.27 of the Rules of Order of the House of Representatives.

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana
6 that House Rule 6.27 of the Rules of Order of the House of Representatives is hereby
7 adopted to read as follows:

8 Rule 6.27. Louisiana Election Integrity Task Force

9 A. There shall be a special committee to be called the Louisiana Election
10 Integrity Task Force which shall be composed of eleven members as follows:

11 (1) The chairman of the Committee on House and Governmental Affairs, or
12 his designee.

13 (2) Ten members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker
14 of the House of Representatives in a manner to reflect the makeup of the membership
15 of the House of Representatives, including party affiliation, race, sex, and geography,
16 to the extent practicable. Of the members appointed by the Speaker, at least one
17 member shall be a resident of each of the districts for the election of members to the
18 State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education respectively.

19 (3) If any member of the task force is unable to attend a meeting of the task
20 force, the member may request the speaker to designate, and the speaker may so

1 designate, another member of the House of Representatives to serve as his proxy at
2 the meeting

3 B. The speaker shall designate the chairman and the vice chairman for the
4 task force from among its members.

5 C.(1) The task force shall have the authority to monitor, review, and make
6 recommendations relative to all aspects of the election processes on a continuing
7 basis including without limitation all matters affecting voter registration, absentee
8 voting, early voting, election day voting, polling places, voting machines and
9 systems, election officials, and the tabulation of election results.

10 (2) The task force shall review election processes in other states, including
11 without limitation all matters affecting voter registration, absentee voting, early
12 voting, election day voting, polling places, methods of voting, election officials, and
13 the tabulation of election results, to identify best practices.

14 (3) The task force shall request the secretary of state to provide an annual
15 report regarding elections and election-related activities that have occurred during
16 the year, no later than December thirty-first, and may request an interim report
17 regarding elections and election-related activities at any time.

18 (4) The task force shall review the implementation of all legislation enacted
19 during the previous year affecting the Louisiana Election Code and shall include its
20 findings and recommendations in its report to the House of Representatives.

21 D.(1) Upon direction of the speaker, the executive director of House
22 Legislative Services shall designate the appropriate staff to provide support to the
23 task force.

24 (2) The legislative auditor and his staff shall assist the task force upon
25 request.

26 (3) The task force may call upon the staffs of any department, agency, or
27 official in the state, particularly those of the Department of State, registrars of voters,
28 and clerks of court, for data and assistance, and all departments, agencies, and
29 officials shall cooperate with the task force.

1 (4) The task force may request and utilize the assistance of any and all
2 private sources.

3 E. The task force shall have the power and authority of a standing committee
4 of the House of Representatives to hold hearings, to require the production of books
5 and records, and to do all other things necessary to discharge its duties.

6 H. The task force shall submit a report of its activities, findings, and
7 recommendations to the House of Representatives no later than the fifth day of
8 January of each year of its existence.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Speaker of the House of Representatives
10 shall appoint the members of the Louisiana Election Integrity Task Force no later than
11 twenty days after the adoption of this Resolution, and the chairman shall call the
12 organizational meeting of the task force prior to August 1, 2021.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Legislature
14 of Louisiana that House Rule 6.27 of the Rules of Order of the House of Representatives is
15 hereby repealed on January 8, 2024.

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)]

HR 73 Original

2021 Regular Session

Edmonds

Abstract: Establishes and provides for a special committee of the House of Representatives to be called the Louisiana Election Integrity Task Force.

Proposed House Rule creates the La. Election Integrity Task Force. Provides that the task force be composed of 11 members as follows: The chairman of the House and Governmental Affairs committee or his designee and 10 members appointed by the speaker in a manner to reflect the makeup of the membership of the House of Representatives, including party affiliation, race, sex, and geography, to the extent practicable. Of the members appointed by the speaker, at least one member shall be a resident of each of the districts for the election of members to BESE, respectively. Authorizes the speaker to designate a proxy for any member who is unable to attend a meeting and who requests the speaker to do so for that meeting. Provides that the speaker shall designate the chairman and the vice chairman from among the membership of the task force.

Proposed House Rule provides that the task force shall have the authority to monitor, review, and make recommendations relative to all aspects of the election processes on a continuing basis and requires the task force to review election processes in other states to identify best practices. Further requires the task force to request the secretary of state to provide an annual report regarding elections and election-related activities that have occurred during

the year, no later than Dec. 31st, and authorizes it to request an interim report at any time. Additionally requires the task force to review the implementation of all legislation enacted during the previous year affecting the La. Election Code and shall include its findings and recommendations in its report to the House.

Proposed House Rule provides that upon direction of the speaker, the executive director of House Legislative Services shall designate the appropriate staff to provide support to the task force; provides that the legislative auditor and his staff shall assist the task force upon request; authorizes the task force to call upon the staffs of any department, agency, or official in the state, particularly those of the Dept. of State, registrars of voters, and clerks of court, for data and assistance, and provides all departments, agencies, and officials shall cooperate with the task force; and authorizes the task force to request and utilize the assistance of any and all private sources.

Proposed House Rule grants the task force all the power and authority of a standing committee of the House to hold hearings, to require the production of books and records, and to do all other things necessary to discharge its duties. Requires the task force to submit a report of its activities, findings, and recommendations to the House no later than the fifth day of Jan. of each year of its existence.

Proposed Resolution requires the speaker to appoint the members of the task force no later than 20 days after the adoption of the Resolution and requires the chairman to call the organizational meeting of the task force prior to Aug. 1, 2021.

Proposed House Rule is repealed effective Jan. 8, 2024.

(Adds House Rule 6.27; Repeals House Rule 6.27)