HLS 22RS-1182 ORIGINAL

2022 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 48

BY REPRESENTATIVE IVEY

LEGISLATIVE POWERS: Provides for House and Senate standing committees to meet and function as joint committees to study the provisions of the state constitution and to make recommendations for revisions

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request each standing committee of each house of the legislature to meet and 3 function as a joint committee with the standing committee of the other house which 4 has a substantially similar subject matter jurisdiction to study the provisions of the 5 Constitution of Louisiana within the jurisdiction of the joint committee and to make 6 recommendations regarding revisions to those provisions to the legislature no later 7 than March 15, 2023. 8 WHEREAS, it has been more than forty-seven years since the Constitution of 9 Louisiana became effective at midnight on December 31, 1974, and during these years the 10 document which constitutes the state's fundamental law has been amended some two 11 hundred three times; and 12 WHEREAS, the need to address a number of key policy areas that require 13 constitutional change has become apparent, including such matters as the state's tax structure 14 and budgetary practices that hamper the state's economic growth and competitiveness as well 15 as the quality of life of Louisiana residents; the prioritization of expenditures through the 16 dedication of state revenues and the resulting inability of the legislature to allocate resources 17 to other priorities, particularly for the needs of health care and higher education; the fiscal 18 restraints on local governments that dramatically limit their authority to meet fiscal and 19 budgetary demands; and other matters; and

WHEREAS, the constitution contains many provisions that prohibit or restrict the
legislature in effectively addressing state and constituent needs, and also includes extensive
provisions that are so detailed as to be statutory rather than constitutional in nature and, as
a result, require further constitutional amendment when any change is needed; and
WHEREAS, a serious analysis of the state constitution is necessary to address the
state's critical needs; to undertake an in-depth consideration of reform proposals; and to craft
provisions that allow for flexibility and innovation in legislative solutions to problems of the
present and the future, and the standing committees of the legislature are uniquely positioned
to recognize issues and recommend appropriate and necessary revisions.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
urge and request each standing committee of each house of the legislature to meet and
function as a joint committee with the standing committee of the other house which has a
substantially similar subject matter jurisdiction to study the provisions of the Constitution
of Louisiana within the jurisdiction of the joint committee, to report its activities regarding
those provisions, and to include in such report its analysis of those provisions to the
legislature, no later than March 15, 2023.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request
each joint committee to specifically include in its report all of the following information:
(1) Identification of the provisions of the constitution within its purview that
constitute fundamental law.
(2) Identification of language in the provisions of the constitution within its purview
that is not considered fundamental law and that either from a best practice or comparative
perspective is unusual for a constitution or is most commonly statutory in nature.
(3) Identification of language in the provisions of the constitution within its purview
that is legally unnecessary, redundant, or obsolete.
(4) Identification of language in the provisions of the constitution within its purview
that is transitional in nature and which should either be removed or updated.
(5) Identification of language in the provisions of the constitution within its purview
that, from an organizational or structural perspective, should either be placed elsewhere in
the constitution or reworded.

- 1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request
- 2 the clerk of the House of Representatives and the secretary of the Senate to jointly review
- 3 and assign each provision of the Constitution of Louisiana to the appropriate joint committee
- 4 or committees no later than fifteen days after the adoption of this Concurrent Resolution.

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)]

HCR 48 Original

2022 Regular Session

Ivey

Requests each standing committee of each house of the legislature to meet and function as a joint committee with the standing committee of the other house which has a substantially similar subject matter jurisdiction to study the provisions of the Constitution of La. within the jurisdiction of the joint committee and to report and make recommendations thereon to the legislature no later than March 15, 2023.