

1 WHEREAS, certain municipalities have requested to be dissolved, but current
2 processes may not offer them suitable options or may be cost prohibitive; and

3 WHEREAS, there is a clear need to review current dissolution, absorption, and
4 incorporation laws and procedures and to consider alternative ways of addressing dissolution
5 and absorption so that officials can address fiscally failing municipalities in a more effective
6 and efficient manner.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana creates a task
8 force to study and make recommendations with respect to the dissolution or absorption of
9 fiscally distressed municipalities including any specific proposals for legislation, by written
10 report to the legislature and to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required
11 by R.S. 24:771 and 772, no later than September 6, 2024.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study task force shall consist of the
13 following members:

14 (1) The president of the Senate, or his designee.

15 (2) The speaker of the House of Representatives, or his designee.

16 (3) The chairman of the House Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs Committee,
17 or his designee.

18 (4) The chairman of the Senate Local and Municipal Affairs Committee, or his
19 designee.

20 (5) The legislative auditor, or his designee.

21 (6) A representative from the legislative fiscal office.

22 (7) The attorney general, or his designee.

23 (8) The state treasurer, or his designee.

24 (9) The commissioner of administration, or his designee.

25 (10) A representative from the Louisiana Municipal Association.

26 (11) A representative from the Police Jury Association.

27 (12) A representative from the Louisiana Sheriff's Association.

28 (13) A representative from the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the Senate shall select a
30 chairman from among these members.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each designating authority shall submit the
2 names of designees to the task force to the secretary of the Senate no later than August 7,
3 2023.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than September 1, 2023, the chairman
5 of the task force shall convene the first meeting of the task force. At the first meeting, the
6 members may elect a vice chairman and other officers as the task force deems appropriate.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the task force shall constitute a
8 quorum for the transaction of business. All official actions of the task force shall require the
9 affirmative vote of a majority of the members.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall study such items as those
11 presented below and will recommend any action or legislation which the task force deems
12 necessary or appropriate. Such recommendations shall be made by the task force prior to the
13 2025 Regular Session of the legislature. These recommendations shall include suggestions
14 regarding necessary legislation and related timelines for drafting and introducing such
15 legislation. Study items shall include but not be limited to the following:

- 16 (1) Examples of how other states have dealt with fiscally failing municipalities.
- 17 (2) Examples of how other states have dealt with dissolution or abolition, and
18 absorption issues and processes when addressing fiscally failing municipalities.
- 19 (3) Dissolution and absorption processes that are currently available to Louisiana
20 municipalities, including their benefits and limitations.
- 21 (4) Continuance of revenue sources for a dissolved or absorbed entity.
- 22 (5) Continuance of revenue sources administered by an absorbing entity.
- 23 (6) Parcel fees employed on residents of dissolved or absorbed entities.
- 24 (7) Process related to overall transfer of assets when entities are dissolved or
25 absorbed.
- 26 (8) Assets used to pay off any debts remaining in a dissolved or absorbed entity and
27 transfer of assets.
- 28 (9) Tax incentives for absorbing entities.
- 29 (10) Issues related to transfer of debt.
- 30 (11) Strategies to employ if there are remaining debts in a dissolved or absorbed

1 entity, such as: how any debts not paid by asset liquidation (in parameters of the dissolved
2 entity) could be restructured, as available, and how the remaining amounts could be paid.

3 (12) Possible expenditure decreases or increases to residents as a result of dissolution
4 or absorption.

5 (13) Effects on services provided to residents of dissolved or absorbed entities as
6 well as those in the absorbing entity.

7 (14) If consolidation of larger governments like school boards or parishes should also
8 be considered.

9 (15) If the study task force should become a more permanent task force that could
10 conduct feasibility studies to determine the need for dissolution or absorption of certain
11 municipalities and recommend such action to the legislature or if other entities are more
12 suited to do so.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the chairman shall call all meetings of the task
14 force. The task force may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may
15 deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers,
16 perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this Resolution.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve
18 without compensation, but may be reimbursed for travel expenses.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana House of Representatives,
20 Louisiana Senate, legislative auditor's office, state treasurer's office, and any other applicable
21 government entity may be called upon to provide staff to carry out the functions of the task
22 force.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall terminate on the date of the
24 submission of its report or September 6, 2024, whichever occurs first.

