

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 35

BY SENATOR HODGES

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Sheriff Jason Ard and the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office for their exceptional efforts in combating illegal narcotics trafficking and protecting children through the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Sheriff Jason Ard and the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office for their
3 exceptional efforts in combating illegal narcotics trafficking and protecting children
4 through the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.

5 WHEREAS, the protection of the residents of Louisiana, particularly children, from
6 the dangers of illegal narcotics and exploitation, is among the most solemn responsibilities
7 of law enforcement and the state; and

8 WHEREAS, under the leadership of Sheriff Jason Ard, the Livingston Parish
9 Sheriff's Office has demonstrated unwavering commitment to public safety through
10 aggressive enforcement, strategic partnerships, and proactive investigative efforts; and

11 WHEREAS, in February 2026, the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office Narcotics
12 Division conducted a historic seizure of approximately three hundred sixty-one pounds of
13 methamphetamine, valued at an estimated four million dollars, representing the largest drug
14 seizure in the agency's history and one of the largest in the state of Louisiana; and

15 WHEREAS, this significant operation resulted in the confiscation of additional
16 evidence including digital weighing scales, packaging materials, United States currency, and
17 a vehicle, further disrupting a large-scale drug trafficking enterprise; and

18 WHEREAS, the success of this operation was made possible through collaboration

1 with multiple law enforcement agencies, including Homeland Security Investigations, the
2 Houston Police Department High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program, the Splendora
3 Police Department in Texas, and the St. James Parish Sheriff's Office; and

4 WHEREAS, in December 2024, the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office achieved the
5 largest fentanyl seizure in the parish's history, removing approximately one hundred
6 thousand lethal doses of fentanyl from circulation and thereby preventing potentially
7 catastrophic loss of life; and

8 WHEREAS, this extensive investigation, spanning over two years, resulted in
9 multiple arrests and the seizure of fentanyl, oxycodone, methamphetamine, and vehicles
10 connected to narcotics distribution, reflecting the diligence and persistence of the narcotics
11 division; and

12 WHEREAS, Sheriff Ard has continued to strengthen the narcotics division by
13 increasing personnel and resources, enhancing the agency's ability to identify, investigate,
14 and apprehend individuals engaged in illegal drug activity; and

15 WHEREAS, in October 2023, under Sheriff Ard's leadership, the Livingston Parish
16 Sheriff's Office launched and expanded its Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force in
17 partnership with the Louisiana Attorney General's Office; and

18 WHEREAS, investigations conducted by the task force in 2024, extended into
19 twenty-four states and five countries, highlighting the widespread and borderless nature of
20 internet-facilitated crimes against children; and

21 WHEREAS, a three-day sting operation conducted by the task force in February
22 2025, resulted in the arrest of eleven individuals facing charges related to child exploitation;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the sting operation was conducted in collaboration with Chris Hansen,
25 widely known for his work on *Dateline NBC* and the investigative segment *To Catch a*
26 *Predator*, as well as his web series *Takedown with Chris Hansen* produced for the streaming
27 service *TruBlu*; and

28 WHEREAS, during 2025, Sheriff Ard, the Livingston Parish Internet Crimes Against
29 Children Task Force, and Chris Hansen collaborated multiple times to conduct sting
30 operations, with the collaborations not only seeking to support law enforcement efforts, but

