

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 177

BY SENATOR MIZELL

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice to study and make recommendations regarding the development, adoption, and implementation of lethal assessment protocols for peace officers in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the safety of both peace officers and the public is a matter of critical importance to the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, peace officers frequently encounter situations involving individuals who may pose a risk of serious harm to themselves or others, requiring rapid and accurate assessment of potential lethality; and

WHEREAS, lethal assessment protocols are structured tools designed to help law enforcement identify indicators of imminent danger, particularly in cases involving domestic violence, mental health crises, or escalating threats; and

WHEREAS, several states and jurisdictions have implemented or piloted lethal assessment models to improve officer decision-making, enhance victim safety, and reduce the likelihood of fatal encounters; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice is uniquely positioned to evaluate best practices, consult with subject-matter experts, and assess the feasibility of statewide standards; and

WHEREAS, a comprehensive study would allow the legislature to consider whether Louisiana should adopt uniform protocols, training requirements, or data-collection practices to support peace officers in high-risk encounters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice to conduct a study on the feasibility, benefits, and potential implementation of lethal assessment protocols for peace officers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall include, at a minimum:

(1) Review of existing models, including domestic violence lethality assessments, crisis-intervention frameworks, and threat-assessment tools used in other states.

(2) Evaluation of training needs, including curriculum development, certification, and continuing education.

(3) Assessment of data collection, including reporting requirements, privacy considerations, and integration with existing criminal justice databases.

(4) Consultation with stakeholders, including sheriffs, police chiefs, district attorneys, victim-advocacy organizations, and mental-health professionals.

(5) Identification of statutory or regulatory changes necessary to implement statewide standards.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice shall submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the Senate Committee on Judiciary B, no later than February 1, 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chairman of the Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement and the Administration of Criminal Justice.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE