Heitmeier SCR No. 47

Creates the Task Force on the Crescent City Connection consisting of 10 members, appointed by the governor, and the DOTD secretary or her designee who shall serve as chairman, and the Crescent City Connection Advisory Panel of five members, all appointed by the governor, to analyze the transition to a toll-free bridge, law enforcement ferry services, and all components and management of the operation of DOTD's Crescent City Connection Division.

Provides that the term of the appointed members shall commence on August 1, 2011, and terminate on March 1, 2012.

Provides for an initial meeting no later than August 1, 2011 at the offices of the Crescent City Connection Division (division). Provides that at the initial meeting, the members of the task force shall provide for the manner and frequency of meetings that will be conducted and for all other ancillary administrative matters which must be determined in order to function as a task force. Meetings of the task force shall be held at the offices of the division. Provides that the task force shall be staffed by DOTD.

Provides that the task force shall have unrestricted access to all records and information relevant to its mission and maintained by DOTD and the division and that the DOTD secretary or her designee shall fully cooperate with and provide records and information to the task force.

Directs the task force to study, evaluate, analyze, and review all aspects of the operation of the division, including but not limited to, financial studies, audits, reports, and regional and national best practices regarding the following areas: (1) structure of administration; (2) governance; (3) current and future maintenance of the bridge structure, including all ramps and ancillary areas within its jurisdiction; (4) need for a well-trained professional police force; (5) potential sources and uses of all revenues, including consideration of bond capacity for predetermined infrastructure improvements; and (6) administration, maintenance, and costs to operate the ferry service system.

Requires the task force to submit a written report to the House and Senate committees on transportation, highways and public works no later than March 1, 2012, and to terminate upon submission of the report.