

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 129

BY SENATOR BROWN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request each parish office of homeland security and emergency preparedness to establish and maintain a voluntary registry of at risk persons and persons with special needs who will require assistance during times of evacuation, and to urge and request parish councils on aging, regional offices of aging and adult services, and regional offices of citizens with developmental disabilities to annually submit names of such persons who have consented to being included in the registry to the parish office of homeland security and emergency preparedness.

WHEREAS, parish councils on aging, regional offices of aging and adult services, and regional offices of citizens with developmental difficulties currently work with at risk persons and persons with special needs in their geographic areas; and

WHEREAS, during times of evacuation, at risk persons and persons with special needs are perhaps the most vulnerable among Louisiana's population in terms of not being able to evacuate without assistance; and

WHEREAS, the experiences in Louisiana with recent hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, and Ike have made clear to Louisianians that those in the state who are at risk or those with special needs necessitate assistance with evacuations, whether voluntary, advisory, mandatory or forced.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request each parish office of homeland security and emergency preparedness to establish and maintain a voluntary registry of at risk persons and persons with special needs who will require assistance during times of evacuation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each parish council on aging, regional office of aging and adult services, and regional office of citizens with developmental disabilities is hereby urged and requested to annually, on or before July first, submit names of such persons who have consented to being included in the registry.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, subject to applicable federal law and regulations and state law, the information in the registry shall be confidential and only be available to governmental agencies to provide emergency preparedness services during times of evacuation to at risk persons and persons with special needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no parish office of homeland security and emergency preparedness or employee of such office shall be held civilly or criminally liable for disclosure of any information in the registry to provide emergency preparedness services during times of evacuation to at risk persons or persons with special needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to be distributed to each parish office of homeland security and emergency preparedness and to the Department of Health and Hospitals to be distributed to all parish councils on aging, regional offices of aging and adult services, and regional offices of citizens with developmental disabilities.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES