HLS 24RS-1506 ENGROSSED

2024 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103

BY REPRESENTATIVE MOORE

HEALTH: Requests the Department of Children and Family Services to study the feasibility of implementing a 233 helpline as an additional resource for sexual abuse victims in this state

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services to study the feasibility
3	of implementing a 233 helpline as an additional resource for sexual abuse victims in
4	this state.
5	WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health identifies unwanted exposure to
6	sexually explicit material, language, or contact as sexual abuse; and
7	WHEREAS, the Newcomb Institute at Tulane University conducted the Louisiana
8	Study on Violence Experiences Across the Lifespan (LaVEX) during the summer of 2023
9	and surveyed more than one thousand adults across the state on a comprehensive range of
10	experiences of violence, which included instances of verbal abuse, cyberbullying, sexual
11	assault, and gun violence; and
12	WHEREAS, according to the LaVEX study, forty-one percent of adults in Louisiana
13	have experienced sexual violence or harassment in their lifetime, twenty-nine percent of
14	adults in Louisiana have been verbally sexually harassed, and eleven percent of adults in
15	Louisiana have experienced sexual assault; and
16	WHEREAS, the LaVEX study also found that women often experienced such abuse
17	at the hands of a romantic or sexual partner; and

1	WHEREAS, forty-two percent of women have experienced physical or sexual
2	violence from a partner with only ten percent of these women reporting their partner; and
3	WHEREAS, organizations like the Louisiana Foundation Against Sexual Assault
4	(LaFASA), the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), and Sexual Trauma
5	Awareness & Response (STAR) exist to address sexual abuse concerns in this state and offer
6	resources to survivors; and
7	WHEREAS, such sexual abuse initiatives provide support services to survivors and
8	statewide sexual assault crisis centers through education, professional training, technical
9	assistance, and community engagement; and
10	WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Family Services has implemented a
11	hotline for child abuse and neglect, which includes reports of sexual trafficking; and
12	WHEREAS, expansion of such services could be beneficial to Louisiana residents
13	who are currently facing or have faced sexual abuse, reported or otherwise; and
14	WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Family Services should research and
15	consider the implementation of a 233 helpline as an additional resource for sexual abuse
16	victims in this state.
17	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
18	urge and request the Department of Children and Family Services to study the feasibility of
19	implementing a 233 helpline as an additional resource for sexual abuse victims in this state
20	and submit its findings in the form of a written report by February 1, 2025 to the House and
21	Senate committees on health and welfare.
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall include information about means
23	of funding for creating a helpline and determining costs for a marketing campaign to boost
24	awareness of the 233 helpline initiative.
25	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26	secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services.

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## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 103 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Moore

Requests the Dept. of Children and Family Services to study the feasibility of implementing a 233 helpline as an additional resource for sexual abuse victims in this state.

Requests a written report of its findings to be submitted to the House and Senate committees on health and welfare by Feb. 1, 2025.