HLS 10RS-5202 **ORIGINAL** 

Regular Session, 2010

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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 245

## BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

JUVENILES: Urges and requests the La. State Law Institute to evaluate progress toward achieving the "Missouri Model" of juvenile justice reform

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to evaluate Louisiana's progress
3	toward achieving juvenile justice reform as it relates to the "Missouri Model" and to
4	report its findings and recommendations to the Louisiana Legislature as to additional
5	steps necessary to further pursue a system of juvenile justice similar to that of the
6	"Missouri Model".
7	WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has recognized the need for intervention
8	in the lives of juvenile offenders to provide them with the opportunity to lead successful,
9	productive lives; and
10	WHEREAS, juvenile justice experts across the nation have recognized that
11	Missouri's approach, known as the "Missouri Model", provides services to juveniles in small,
12	community-based settings; and
13	WHEREAS, the "Missouri Model" continues to be viewed as one of the premier
14	models for juvenile justice in the country and boasts one of the lowest recidivism rates in the
15	country; and
16	WHEREAS, the success of the "Missouri Model" and other similar systems of
17	juvenile justice requires a combined, systematic approach with the three branches of
18	government collaborating to ensure the integrity and success of the program which
19	emphasizes individualized rehabilitation in small group, community-based settings; and

1 WHEREAS, Act No.1225 of the 2003 Regular Session of the Legislature and Act 2 No. 555 of the 2004 Regular Session of the Legislature initiated a statewide reform of 3 Louisiana's juvenile justice system in an attempt to achieve the same successes achieved by 4 the "Missouri Model"; and 5 WHEREAS, seven years later, there is a continuing need to evaluate and revise 6 Louisiana's juvenile justice system to ensure that all necessary and nationally-recognized 7 systems and procedures are in place to ensure the well-being of the juvenile and the safety 8 of the general public; and 9 WHEREAS, in conducting this evaluation, it is necessary that the Louisiana State 10 Law Institute appoint and convene a task force composed of representatives of each of the 11 following: the juvenile drug court community; the Louisiana District Judges Association; 12 the Louisiana Supreme Court; the Louisiana Juvenile Detention Association; the Juvenile 13 Justice Implementation Committee; the Legislature of Louisiana; the Louisiana District 14 Attorneys Association; the Louisiana Public Defenders Board; the Louisiana Sheriffs' 15 Association; the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana; the Department of Public Safety and 16 Corrections, the office of juvenile justice, and the division of probation and parole; the 17 Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the Department of Education; the 18 Department of Social Services; the Department of Health and Hospitals; the Louisiana 19 Commission on Law Enforcement and Administration of Criminal Justice; each of the 20 MacArthur Foundation - Models for Change sites located in Louisiana; the Children's Code 21 Advisory Committee and the Criminal Code and Procedure Advisory Committee of the 22 Louisiana State Law Institute; and any other entity concerned with the well-being of children 23 and the juvenile justice system in this state. 24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 25 urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to appoint and convene a task force to 26 evaluate Louisiana's progress toward achieving juvenile justice reform as it relates to the 27 "Missouri Model" and to report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana as to additional steps necessary to further pursue a system of juvenile justice 28 29 similar to that of the "Missouri Model".

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute report its

- 2 findings and recommendations to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than January 1, 2012.
- 3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
- 4 Louisiana State Law Institute.

## **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)]

Leger HCR No. 245

Requests the La. State Law Institute to evaluate Louisiana's progress toward achieving juvenile justice reform as it relates to the "Missouri Model" and to report its findings and recommendations to the legislature as to additional steps necessary to further pursue a system of juvenile justice similar to that of the "Missouri Model".