

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 108

BY REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES OWEN

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to study provisions of law on civil liability for intentional dissemination of personally identifiable information, also known as doxing, and to report its findings to the House of Representatives no later than February 1, 2022.

WHEREAS, the intentional dissemination of personally identifiable information has become more commonplace and concerns information that would allow the person subject to the doxing to be located, contacted, harassed, threatened, or harmed; and

WHEREAS, the practice of doxing can lead to significant and reasonable fear of harm or actual harm, including death or serious bodily injury, to the person whose personally identifiable information is intentionally disseminated to the public; and

WHEREAS, the practice of doxing public safety officers, public officials, and minors has become more commonplace; and

WHEREAS, the practice of doxing public safety officers and public officials can cause a reasonable fear of harm or actual injury to the public safety officers and public officials, as well as interfere with and discourage public safety officers and public officials from conducting their duties; and

WHEREAS, the practice of doxing can be magnified for minors and can cause reasonable fear of harm or actual harm to the minors because of the vulnerability of youth; and

WHEREAS, the constitutions of the United States and the state of Louisiana protect personal privacy interests; and

WHEREAS, provisions in Louisiana law defining a cause of action for doxing could both deter persons from committing doxing and provide reasonable compensation to victims of doxing; and

WHEREAS, the constitutions of the United States and the state of Louisiana protect the right of free speech, the right of freedom of the press, the right of petitioning the government, and the right of confronting an accuser, and any prohibition of, penalty for, or remedy for doxing should avoid violating the legitimate exercise of those constitutional rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana urges and requests the Louisiana State Law Institute to study provisions of law on civil liability for intentional dissemination of personally identifiable information and to report its findings to the House of Representatives no later than February 1, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the director of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall submit one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced pursuant to this Resolution to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES