

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 149

BY REPRESENTATIVE KLECKLEY

A RESOLUTION

To request the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations to study the feasibility of implementing procedures for promotion in the municipal police classified civil service that would combine the current seniority/testing system with merit-based factors and to report the committee's findings and recommendations to the legislature prior to the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, the Constitution of Louisiana provides for a system of classified fire and police civil service for municipalities having a population exceeding thirteen thousand that operate a regularly paid fire and municipal police department and for parishes and fire protection districts that operate a regularly paid fire department, and further provides that appointments and promotions in the classified service are subject to a system based upon merit, efficiency, fitness, and length of service as provided in Article XIV, Section 15.1 of the Constitution of 1921 which was made statutory by the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, and state law further provides for civil service for paid firemen and policemen in any municipality with a population of not less than seven thousand and not more than thirteen thousand having a regularly paid fire or police department; and

WHEREAS, promotions in the classified civil service for municipal police are currently based primarily on seniority in the classified service together with the results of tests administered to candidates for promotion; and

WHEREAS, suggestions have been made that promotions in the classified police service should be based on other considerations and factors that may be used to determine the relative merit of candidates; and

WHEREAS, changes in the methodology for promotions in the municipal police service should be made only after careful study and examination of procedures that might be used as well as the potential results of such changes; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that such a study be conducted and its results and recommendations reported for legislative consideration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby request the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations to conduct a study of the feasibility of implementing procedures for promotion in the municipal police classified civil service that would combine the current seniority/testing system with merit-based factors to be used to determine the best qualified candidates and to report the committee's findings and recommendations to the legislature prior to the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such study shall include careful analysis of relevant factors and possible approaches, consideration of potential effects and results of possible changes, and formulation of specific recommendations for procedures to be used in making promotions in the classified police civil service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the conduct of such study the committee shall seek and consider information and advice from the state examiner of fire and police civil service, members of the classified police service, and organizations that represent members of the classified police service, municipal police chiefs and organizations that represent municipal police chiefs, municipal officials and organizations that represent municipal officials, representatives of the Department of State Civil Service and the state police service, and interested citizens.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES