

2016 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY REPRESENTATIVE GLOVER

COMMERCE: Requests the House Committee on Commerce to study the state of the automotive manufacturing industry in the state of Louisiana since the onset of the most recent worldwide economic downturn

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the House Committee on Commerce to study the state of the automotive  
3 manufacturing industry in the state of Louisiana since the onset of the most recent  
4 worldwide economic turndown.

5 WHEREAS, during the late 2000s, a recession of a global scale adversely affected  
6 the economy of the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, such adverse effects were manifested as an overall decline in economic  
8 activity resulting in a loss of industry and consumer wealth, the scarce availability of credit,  
9 and subsequently, the realization of sharp cutbacks in consumer spending; and

10 WHEREAS, the national automobile industry, and the automobile industry in this  
11 state, experienced declining automobile sales and the substantial loss of employment  
12 opportunities; and

13 WHEREAS, perpetual declining sales and employment loss lead to the 2009  
14 bankruptcy of the General Motors Corporation, and by 2012, a complete cessation of  
15 automobile manufacturing at the General Motors Shreveport plant, which for more than  
16 thirty years was a generator of jobs and economic opportunity in this state; and

17 WHEREAS, after the bankruptcy of General Motors, the Shreveport plant was  
18 assumed by the Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust (RACER)  
19 that was created by the United States Bankruptcy Court to clean up and position for

1 redevelopment the properties and other facilities owned by the former General Motors  
2 Corporation; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2013, in efforts to rebuild, reposition, and revitalize the state's hard-  
4 hit automobile industry, certain agreements were reached by RACER and particular  
5 automobile manufacturers for the production of certain vehicles at the former General  
6 Motors Shreveport plant; and

7 WHEREAS, such automobile production was expected to commence by the end of  
8 2015, yielding the expectation for economic stimulation and the creation of thousands of  
9 potential jobs; and

10 WHEREAS, as of 2016, prior agreements for automobile production have yet to  
11 materialize, and the state has an interest in creating transparency and uncovering any  
12 pertinent explanations as to why those agreements have not come to fruition, as such  
13 agreements for automobile manufacturing in Louisiana can only serve to positively benefit  
14 the overall economy and citizenry of this state.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the House Committee on Commerce  
17 to do all of the following:

18 (1) Study the state of the automotive manufacturing industry in the state of Louisiana  
19 since the onset of the most recent worldwide economic downturn that began in 2008.

20 (2) Investigate and report on the activities of RACER in the state of Louisiana.

21 (3) Tour and assess the current condition and circumstances of any Louisiana based  
22 properties either currently or previously under the control and supervision of RACER in the  
23 state of Louisiana.

24 (4) Take testimony from local, regional, and state officials and economic  
25 development stakeholders regarding barriers and obstacles impacting the ability to  
26 effectively market facilities either currently or previously under the control of RACER.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House Committee on Commerce shall report  
28 its findings to the House of Representatives prior to the convening of the 2017 Regular  
29 Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

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)]

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HR 37 Original

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Requests the House Committee on Commerce to study the state of the automotive manufacturing industry in the state of Louisiana since the onset of the most recent worldwide economic turndown.

Requests a report of its findings prior to the convening of 2017 R.S.