

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 71

BY REPRESENTATIVE PATRICIA SMITH

HOUSE/CHAMBER: Requests the House clerk and sergeant at arms to work collaboratively to implement procedures for the inspection of deliveries made to members on the House Floor and to submit recommendations relative to House Rules prior to the 2011 R.S.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the clerk and the sergeant at arms of the House of Representatives of
3 the Legislature of Louisiana to work collaboratively to develop and implement
4 policies and procedures for the inspection of the contents of mail and packages
5 delivered to House members on the House Floor and to submit jointly, in writing,
6 any recommendations for related legislation with respect to House Rules to the
7 House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs at least sixty days prior to the
8 beginning of the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

9 WHEREAS, members of the House receive numerous deliveries in the House
10 Chamber on a daily basis; and

11 WHEREAS, these deliveries come in a variety of forms, including mail, packages,
12 written messages, and other pieces of written correspondence, such as flyers and handouts;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, there is concern that a better process is needed for ensuring safety of
15 the members, the veracity of the sender, and the appropriateness of the contents of such
16 items before they are delivered to House members.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
18 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the clerk and the sergeant at arms of
19 the House of Representatives to work collaboratively to develop and implement policies and
20 procedures for the inspection of the contents of mail and packages delivered to House

1 members on the House Floor and to submit jointly, in writing, any recommendations for
2 related legislation with respect to House Rules to the House Committee on House and
3 Governmental Affairs at least sixty days prior to the beginning of the 2011 Regular Session
4 of the Legislature of Louisiana.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in devising such policies and procedures, the
6 clerk and the sergeant at arms shall consider routing all such deliveries through one or both
7 of their respective offices in order to ensure safety of the members, confirmation of the
8 identity of the sender as well as the sender's contact information, and the appropriateness of
9 the content.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the clerk and the sergeant at arms shall consider
11 the possibility of requiring all such deliveries to be placed by the sender in a transparent
12 envelope or transparent container so that contents are readily visible and identifiable.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the clerk and the sergeant at arms also shall take
14 into consideration procedures relative to mailings and packages routed through FedEx, the
15 United Parcel Service, the United States Postal Service, and other common delivery
16 companies and services.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the policies and procedures shall provide, at the
18 discretion of the clerk and the sergeant at arms, for certain excepted deliveries which need
19 not be subject to inspection and which shall include but not be limited to the following:

20 (1) Messages, correspondence, and other deliveries from members of the House staff
21 and House Legislative Services, or deliveries from the Senate.

22 (2) Notes from constituents and lobbyists which are submitted to an assistant
23 sergeant at arms for delivery to an individual member provided the note is not sealed.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the clerk and the sergeant at arms shall take all
25 reasonable measures to provide for the immediate development and implementation of these
26 policies and procedures and also shall strategically plan for changes that may take more time
27 and resources to effect on a long-term basis.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the
29 clerk and the sergeant at arms of the House of Representatives.

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)]

Patricia Smith

HR No. 71

Requests the House clerk and the sergeant at arms to work collaboratively to develop and implement policies and procedures for the inspection of the contents of mail and packages delivered to House members on the House Floor and to submit recommendations for related legislation with respect to House Rules to the House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs at least 60 days before the beginning of 2011 R.S.