



1 only the problematic provisions which the 1973 convention found itself unable or unwilling  
2 to address but additional provisions that protect narrow interests from legislative action  
3 despite changing times and needs and that tie the hands of the legislature in its efforts to  
4 effect significant reforms; and

5 WHEREAS, various authorities have suggested the need for Louisiana to address a  
6 number of policy areas that would require constitutional change, including such matters as  
7 the state's tax structure and budgetary practices, dedication of state revenues and the  
8 resulting inability of the legislature to allocate tax resources where needed, as well as fiscal  
9 restraints on local governments that dramatically limit their authority to meet fiscal and  
10 budgetary demands; and

11 WHEREAS, as was the case in 1973, Louisiana once again faces the need for a  
12 serious analysis of its basic law, and it must determine whether a constitutional convention  
13 is needed and would be the most effective approach to: conducting a genuine examination  
14 of the state's critical needs, undertaking an in-depth discussion of reform concepts, crafting  
15 provisions that allow for flexibility and innovation in legislative solutions to problems of the  
16 present and the future, and challenging Louisiana's voters to accept constructive change; and

17 WHEREAS, prior to calling a constitutional convention, it would be wise to  
18 undertake appropriate study and analysis to enable effective decisions concerning details of  
19 convention composition, organization, procedure, staffing, and other resources.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
21 create and establish the Constitutional Convention Study Commission to undertake all study  
22 and analysis necessary for a complete examination of the feasibility and advisability of  
23 calling a constitutional convention to revise the Constitution of Louisiana and, if a  
24 convention is found to be feasible and advisable, to make recommendations to the legislature  
25 for calling such a convention.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be composed of nineteen  
27 members as follows:

28 (1) Four members of the Louisiana Legislature appointed with the concurrence of  
29 and the president and president pro tempore of the Senate and the speaker and speaker pro  
30 tempore of the House of Representatives.

- 1           (2) Four members appointed by the governor.
- 2           (3) Four members appointed by the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme Court.
- 3           (4) A representative of the Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center
- 4 appointed by the dean of the law center.
- 5           (5) A representative of the Southern University Law Center appointed by the
- 6 chancellor of the law center.
- 7           (6) A representative of the Tulane University Law School appointed by the dean of
- 8 the law school.
- 9           (7) A representative of Loyola University New Orleans College of Law appointed
- 10 by the dean of the college of law.
- 11           (8) A representative of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana appointed
- 12 by the council.
- 13           (9) A representative of the Council for a Better Louisiana appointed by the council.
- 14           (10) A representative of local governmental bodies appointed with the concurrence
- 15 of the Louisiana Municipal Association, the Police Jury Association of Louisiana, and the
- 16 Louisiana School Boards Association.

17           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in making appointments to the commission, the

18 appointing authorities shall seek to provide diversity in the commission's membership,

19 including diversity of geography, race, and gender.

20           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a vacancy in commission membership shall be

21 filled in the manner of the original appointment.

22           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall hold its organizational

23 meeting within sixty days after adjournment sine die of the 2018 Regular Session of the

24 Legislature on the call of the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of

25 Representatives acting jointly and that at such organizational meeting the commission shall

26 elect a chairman, a vice chairman, and such other officers as it finds necessary and shall

27 adopt rules for its own procedure which shall be subject to later amendment by the

28 commission.

29           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall make such studies as it

30 finds necessary or appropriate to determine the feasibility and advisability of calling a

1 convention to revise the Constitution of Louisiana and, if a convention is found to be feasible  
2 and advisable, to make recommendations to the legislature on all matters relevant to the  
3 convening and conduct of a constitutional convention, including a plan for the conduct of  
4 an effective constitutional convention, which plan shall include but not be limited to:

5 (1) A policy agenda for the convention which shall include:

6 (a) Identification of significant policy areas that must be addressed in order to  
7 propose a constitution that will serve the state effectively.

8 (b) Alternative proposals for provisions on significant policy areas, together with  
9 explanations and explanatory materials therefor, including multiple optional approaches and  
10 solutions as appropriate to facilitate the work of the convention in addressing issues.

11 (c) Pertinent background material and data relative to significant policy areas.

12 (2) Background and other materials that the committee determines will be useful to  
13 the work of the convention.

14 (3) Proposals for elimination of statutory materials from the constitution, together  
15 with recommendations for legislative action relative thereto.

16 (4) Recommendations for convention organization and deliberations, including the  
17 composition of the membership of the convention, officers and committees, and significant  
18 provisions for rules of procedure.

19 (5) Timetables for convening, for staff work, for completion of a draft constitution,  
20 for the election to submit the proposal to the voters of the state, and for effectiveness of the  
21 new constitution.

22 (6) An analysis of staffing and other resources needed and available to address  
23 policy issues and to skillfully draft constitutional language.

24 (7) Recommendations for budget needs for effective conduct of a convention.

25 (8) Recommendations for procedures for submission of alternative proposals to the  
26 voters and ballot structure.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall complete its study and  
28 determine its recommendations to the legislature and to the governor no later than January  
29 15, 2019, and shall submit to each member of the legislature no later than February 14, 2019,  
30 the complete results of its study and a report of its findings and its recommendations based

1 thereon.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission, for the purposes of conducting  
3 the study as provided in this Resolution, may utilize the personnel, facilities, and services  
4 of the legislative auditor, the legislative fiscal officer, and the staffs of the Senate and the  
5 House of Representatives, and that the commission may request and utilize such counsel,  
6 assistance, personnel, facilities, and advice as may be obtained from any and all public  
7 sources and from any and all private sources, including but not necessarily restricted to  
8 private research agencies, individuals, and organizations.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the president of the Senate and the speaker of  
10 the House of Representatives may each assign one or more employees whose full-time duties  
11 and responsibilities shall be providing staff support to the commission; that the legislative  
12 fiscal officer shall assign one employee whose full-time duty and responsibility shall be  
13 providing staff support to the commission; that the director of the Louisiana State Law  
14 Institute shall assign one employee whose half-time duty and responsibility shall be  
15 providing staff support to the commission; that the chief justice of the Louisiana Supreme  
16 Court shall assign one employee whose half-time duty and responsibility shall be providing  
17 staff support to the commission; and that each university that appoints a member to the  
18 commission shall assign one employee whose half-time duty and responsibility shall be  
19 providing staff support to the commission.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission may make or cause to be made  
21 any studies it finds useful for the purposes of this Resolution through legislative personnel  
22 or in cooperation with any public or private agency, including but not limited to universities,  
23 colleges, foundations, charitable corporations, and research organizations, and the  
24 commission may call upon the members or staffs of any and all departments or agencies of  
25 the state for data and assistance, and all such departments and agencies shall cooperate with  
26 the commission.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission may receive grants, donations,  
28 or gifts of money or services from public or private organizations or from any other source,  
29 to be utilized for the purposes of the commission.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission may create or appoint advisory



legislature on all matters relevant to the convening and conduct of a constitutional convention, including a plan for the conduct of an effective constitutional convention, which plan shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) A policy agenda for the convention which shall include:
  - (a) Identification of significant policy areas that must be addressed in order to propose a constitution that will serve the state effectively.
  - (b) Alternative proposals for provisions on significant policy areas, together with explanations and explanatory materials therefor, including multiple optional approaches and solutions as appropriate to facilitate the work of the convention in addressing issues.
  - (c) Pertinent background material and data relative to significant policy areas.
- (2) Background and other materials that the committee determines will be useful to the work of the convention.
- (3) Proposals for elimination of statutory materials from the constitution, together with recommendations for legislative action relative thereto.
- (4) Recommendations for convention organization and deliberations, including the composition of the membership of the convention, officers and committees, and significant provisions for rules of procedure.
- (5) Timetables for convening, for staff work, for completion of a draft constitution, for the election to submit the proposal to the voters of the state, and for effectiveness of the new constitution.
- (6) An analysis of staffing and other resources needed and available to address policy issues and to skillfully draft constitutional language.
- (7) Recommendations for budget needs for effective conduct of a convention.
- (8) Recommendations for procedures for submission of alternative proposals to the voters and ballot structure.

The commission shall complete its study and determine its recommendations to the legislature and to the governor no later than January 15, 2019, and shall submit to each member of the legislature no later than February 14, 2019, the complete results of its study and a report of its findings and its recommendations based thereon.

The commission shall be deemed dissolved upon the adjournment sine die of the 2019 RS of the legislature.