

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY SENATOR JACKSON

VOTERS/VOTING. Creates a study group to study the voting rights of persons incarcerated prior to trial.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To create a study group to study the voting rights of persons who are incarcerated prior to
3 trial and the procedures available to those persons to cast their ballots.

4 WHEREAS, voting is a civic duty of paramount importance; and

5 WHEREAS, the right to vote is protected by the Constitution of the United States of
6 America and the Constitution of Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the immeasurable value one vote can have;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, it is important that each Louisiana citizen who is eligible to vote be able
10 to exercise that right; and

11 WHEREAS, persons who are incarcerated in institutions inside or outside the parish
12 in which they are qualified to vote, but who are not under an order of imprisonment for
13 conviction of a felony, including those incarcerated prior to trial, may still exercise their
14 right to vote, and by doing so make their voices heard and participate in the democratic
15 process; and

16 WHEREAS, the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana is committed to exploring
17 every possible means that may positively affect the potential for every eligible citizen to
18 participate in the life of their community and state by voting.

1 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
2 does hereby create a study group to study the voting rights of persons who are incarcerated
3 prior to trial and the procedures available to those persons to cast their ballots, including any
4 means available, or that might be made available, to facilitate voting by those persons, and
5 any impediments that exist to voting by those persons.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall be composed of the
7 following members:

8 (1) The governor, or his designee.

9 (2) The secretary of state, or his designee.

10 (3) The deputy secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections,
11 corrections services, or his designee.

12 (4) The state public defender, or his designee.

13 (5) The executive director of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, or his
14 designee.

15 (6) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, or his designee.

16 (7) The executive director of the Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police, or his
17 designee.

18 (8) The executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana, or his
19 designee.

20 (9) The president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
21 (NAACP), Louisiana State Conference, or his designee.

22 (10) The executive director of Voice of the Experienced, or his designee.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the first meeting of the study group shall be
24 called by the senator representing Senate District No. 34, and at its first meeting the study
25 group shall select a chair.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall meet at such times and
27 places as determined by its chair, and it may elect a vice chair and other officers as deemed
28 necessary by the study group.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the study group shall serve
30 without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be

