HLS 24RS-1793 ENGROSSED

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 40

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOYD

COURTS: Creates the Judicial Security Task Force

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

| To create and establish the Judicial Security Task Force to identify minimum requirements | |
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| for courthouse safety, to determine the minimum number of security officers that | |
| should be present in each type of judicial proceeding in a circuit or district court, to | |
| determine the minimum qualifications for security officers, to determine the | |
| minimum standards for secure entry and exit of judicial officers from court facilities, | |
| including minimum standards for secure parking and, if such parking is not | |
| connected to the courthouse, secure transit between parking and the courthouse, to | |
| determine the minimum standards for safe public areas of courthouses, including for | |
| the protection of judicial officers who are required to enter public areas of the | |
| courthouse in the performance of their duties, to identify physical security | |
| deficiencies that currently exist in courthouses and develop a plan to address these | |
| deficiencies, and to report its findings and recommendations to the House Committee | |
| on Judiciary no later than February 1, 2025. | |
| WHEREAS, protecting the safety and security of judicial officers throughout | |
| Louisiana and the United States has become an issue of critical importance due to threats, | |
| assaults, and murders of judicial officers and their family members; and | |
| WHEREAS, there is a need to bolster efforts to protect the judiciary and safeguard | |
| the personal information of judges and their immediate families; and | |

| 1 | WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Daniel Anderl Judicial Security |
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| 2 | and Privacy Act in 2020, after an aggrieved litigant murdered the only son of U.S. District |
| 3 | Judge Esther Salas at her personal residence; and |
| 4 | WHEREAS, in recent years, an increasing number of judges have been threatened |
| 5 | for carrying out their critical work of administering justice; and |
| 6 | WHEREAS, personal information about judges and their families, including home |
| 7 | addresses, is easily found online; and |
| 8 | WHEREAS, it is imperative to find the appropriate balance between the safety of |
| 9 | judges and their families and the importance of transparency and accountability in the |
| 10 | judiciary. |
| 11 | THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby |
| 12 | acknowledge these increasing threats to judicial officers and seeks to ensure the protection, |
| 13 | safety, and security of judicial officers and their families and establish the Judicial Security |
| 14 | Task Force. |
| 15 | BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be composed of the |
| 16 | following members: |
| 17 | (1) The chief justice of the supreme court, or his designee. |
| 18 | (2) The chair of the Louisiana Conference of Court of Appeal Judges, or his |
| 19 | designee. |
| 20 | (3) The president of the Louisiana District Judges Association, or his designee. |
| 21 | (4) The president of the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, or |
| 22 | his designee. |
| 23 | (5) The president of the Louisiana City Court Judges Association, or his designee. |
| 24 | (6) Three members of parish leadership, or their designees, from parishes with |
| 25 | varying density populations, appointed by the governor. |
| 26 | (7) One member of the Louisiana Senate, appointed by the president of the Senate. |
| 27 | (8) One member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, appointed by the |
| 28 | speaker of the House of Representatives. |
| 29 | (9) Three sheriffs, or their designees, from parishes with varying density |
| 30 | populations, appointed by the governor. |

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1 (10) The superintendent of Louisiana State Police, or his designee.

2 (11) Three chiefs of police, or their designees, from parishes with varying density

3 populations, appointed by the governor.

(12) A magistrate from a district court, appointed by the chief justice of the supreme

5 court.

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6 (13) The president of the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association.

(14) One bailiff of a district court, appointed by the chief justice of the supreme

court.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

governor, the chief justice of the supreme court, the chair of the Louisiana Conference of

Court of Appeals Judges, the president of the Louisiana District Judges Association, the

president of the Louisiana Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the president of the

Louisiana City Court Judges Association, the superintendent of the Louisiana State Police,

the chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary, the president of the Senate, and the

speaker of the House of Representatives, and that the task force established pursuant to this

Resolution report its findings and recommendations to the legislature on or before February

1, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force established pursuant to this

Resolution shall submit one print copy and one electronic copy of any report produced

pursuant to this Resolution to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required

21 by R.S. 24:772.

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)]

HCR 40 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Boyd

Creates the Judicial Security Task Force.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on Judiciary</u> to the <u>original</u> bill:

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1. Change a member of the task force <u>from</u> a clerk appointed by the supreme court <u>to</u> the president of the clerks of court association.