

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 114

BY REPRESENTATIVE PIERRE

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request local representatives of the city-parish of Lafayette, including the president of the city-parish of Lafayette, the police chief of the city of Lafayette, and representatives of the Greater Southwest Louisiana Black Chamber of Commerce, the North Lafayette Redevelopment Authority, and the Lafayette chapter of the Magnolia State Peace Officers Association of Louisiana, to meet and discuss the need to address the increase in crime in the northern portion of the city of Lafayette and to develop policy recommendations aimed at reducing crime in that portion of the city and to report such policy recommendations to the governing authority of the city-parish of Lafayette no later than February 1, 2016.

WHEREAS, Lafayette, Louisiana, is in the heart of the Acadiana region and is a cultural oasis that blends the contemporary sophistication of a cosmopolitan city with a unique heritage and culture hard to find anywhere else in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Lafayette, Louisiana, is a city that attracts a large number of tourists every year as it boasts a tantalizing selection of restaurants, which offer such Cajun and Creole delicacies as seafood gumbo, crawfish étouffé, and jambalaya, and is also the site of a multitude of historical attractions, including the National Park Service's Acadian Cultural Center; and

WHEREAS, many local officials and community leaders in the city of Lafayette are growing concerned about the increase in crime, particularly in the northern portion of the city, as tourists and residents face increasing odds of becoming victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, many local officials and community leaders are seeking avenues to reduce crime in the northern portion of the city as crime tends to drive away tourists, which can have a negative impact on the local economy, and it forces local residents to deal with the trauma of repeated victimization, which can produce family disharmony, promote a pattern of escalating violence, and create an emotional atmosphere that is not conducive to healthy living; and

WHEREAS, many local officials and community leaders are working in concert to revitalize the northern portion of the city, including a proposed project in the Four Corners area that will include a police substation and a public plaza and is regarded a potential catalyst for bringing the community together and making the northern portion of the city a safer place to live; and

WHEREAS, additional efforts aimed at reducing crime in the northern portion of the city are needed in order to ensure that the entire city continues to be a safe place for tourists to visit and residents to live.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request local representatives of the city-parish of Lafayette, including the president of the city-parish of Lafayette, the police chief of the city of Lafayette, and representatives of the Greater Southwest Louisiana Black Chamber of Commerce, the North Lafayette Redevelopment Authority, and the Lafayette chapter of the Magnolia State Peace Officers Association of Louisiana, to meet and discuss the need to address the increase in crime in the northern portion of the city of Lafayette and to develop policy recommendations aimed at reducing crime in that portion of the city and to report such policy recommendations to the governing authority of the city-parish of Lafayette no later than February 1, 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the city-parish of Lafayette, the police chief of the city of Lafayette, the presidents of the Greater Southwest Louisiana Black Chamber of Commerce and the North Lafayette Redevelopment Authority, and the regional representative of the Lafayette chapter of the Magnolia State Peace Officers Association of Louisiana.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES