2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES

CORRECTIONS/PRISONERS: Requests the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to reconvene the COVID-19 Furlough Review Panel

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to reconvene the COVID-19 Furlough Review Panel to safely reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 in Louisiana's prisons and jails.

WHEREAS, on April 14, 2020, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections created the COVID-19 Furlough Review Panel to consider certain offenders, who were within the last six months of their prison sentence, for temporary furloughs; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, along with the probation and parole office of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections, the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association, and Louisiana courts, implemented measures to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 throughout the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Furlough Review Panel aimed to reduce the population of offenders sentenced to the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections in a way that maintained public safety and promoted public health; and

WHEREAS, as of October 20, 2020, the Department of Public Safety and Corrections reported a total of two thousand four hundred five positive COVID-19 cases; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the panel to reconvene to consider any person sentenced to the custody of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections and within six months of discharge to be eligible for temporary furloughs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Public Safety and Corrections to reconvene the COVID-19 Furlough Review Panel to safely reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 in Louisiana's prisons and jails.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Public Safety and Corrections.

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)]

HR 37 Original 2020 Second Extraordinary Session James

Requests the Dept. of Public Safety and Corrections to reconvene the COVID-19 Furlough Review Panel to safely reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 in the state's prisons and jails.