

CITY OF ST. GEORGE

BY COUNCIL MEMBER HECK:

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-014

TO REQUEST THE METROPOLITAN COUNCIL FOR THE CONSOLIDATED GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF BATON ROUGE AND THE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE TO CREATE A HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION AND TO PROVIDE FOR RELATED MATTERS

WHEREAS, the City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge (City-Parish) have operated under a consolidated government structure since 1949, marking one of the earliest forms of city-parish government consolidation in the United States;

WHEREAS, the governance and demographic landscape of East Baton Rouge Parish has significantly evolved over the decades, now encompassing five incorporated cities: Baker, Baton Rouge, Central, St. George, and Zachary;

WHEREAS, this evolving structure calls for a modernized approach to governance that accurately reflects the unique and diverse needs, perspectives, and priorities of each municipality within East Baton Rouge Parish;

WHEREAS, a Home Rule Charter Commission dedicated to crafting a fresh and forward-looking governance framework would enable collaborative input from all five cities, their residents, and other stakeholders to propose a structure that better serves the present and future needs of East Baton Rouge Parish; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a Home Rule Charter Commission presents an opportunity to create a more inclusive, efficient, transparent, and accountable form of local government, focused on optimizing the role and contributions of each municipality within the parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the St. George City Council that:

1. The St. George City Council urges and requests the Metropolitan Council of the Consolidated City of Baton Rouge and Parish of East Baton Rouge (“Metro-Council”) to initiate proceedings for the creation of a Home Rule Charter Commission, empowered to develop a new Home Rule Charter, without limitations or constraints imposed by the existing charter, to ensure a comprehensive and contemporary approach to local governance that serves the evolving needs of East Baton Rouge Parish residents and tasked with developing a modernized governance framework reflective of current needs and priorities within East Baton Rouge Parish, including the perspectives of all five incorporated cities: Baker, Baton Rouge, Central, St. George, and Zachary.
2. The St. George City Council urges and requests that a Home Rule Charter Commission be composed of individuals representing diverse interests and include members who

are residents of each municipality in East Baton Rouge Parish, ensuring that diverse perspectives and interests are thoroughly considered and incorporated into a proposed new governance structure.

3. Copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Metro-Council, the Mayor-President, the mayors of Baker, Zachary and Central and any other appropriate governmental bodies and agencies and elected official for their information and consideration.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

This Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

For: Cook, Edmonds, Heck, Himmel and Monachello

Against: NONE

CERTIFICATION

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at the Regular Meeting of the Council for the City of St. George held on November 26, 2024.



Lorraine Beaman, Clerk