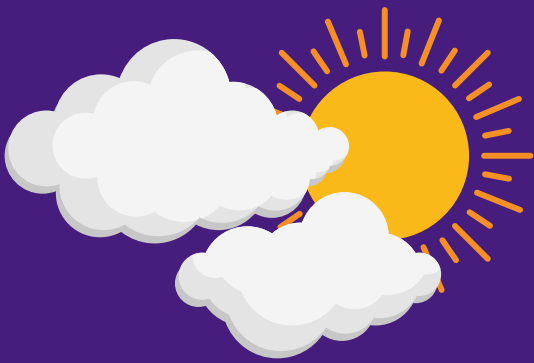


East Carroll Parish Asset Map

Food Systems
Physical Activity
Community Assets

2020





In 2018, the LSU AgCenter entered into a 5-year cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address the nutrition and physical activity environments in six rural Louisiana parishes with some of the highest obesity rates in the state (Assumption, St. Helena, Tensas, Madison, Morehouse, and East Carroll). Through the LSU AgCenter's Cooperative Extension Healthy Communities initiative, multi-level, community-driven approaches are utilized to identify and implement Policy, Systems, and Environmental (PSE) change strategies, with the goal of promoting healthy behaviors among residents and improving obesity rates and quality of life.

Healthy communities are places where people come together to make their communities better for everyone through collaboration, community ownership, inclusive approaches, and a long-term, positive commitment to healthy lifestyles. The mission of East Carroll Parish Healthy Communities is to address the health concerns in our parish so that people can live healthy and flourishing lives. East Carroll Healthy Communities goals include working collaboratively with community groups, educating the community on healthier options, and inspiring residents to live healthy lives.

The following pages detail the strong network of resources, stakeholders, and community assets within East Carroll Parish.

Asset Maps identify and provide information about a community's assets: the resources, knowledge, and skills that the community possesses.

East Carroll Parish

Demographics

East Carroll Parish Ranks **63** out of **64** parishes in terms of overall health.



40%

Obesity Rate

33%

Food Insecure

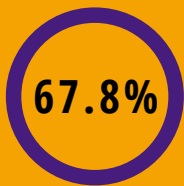
28%

Physically Inactive

The Healthy Communities cooperative agreement between the Centers for Disease Control and the LSU AgCenter utilizes economic development strategies to improve the local food system and physical activity environment.



As of 2020, the unemployment rate of East Carroll Parish was **10.3%**, compared to the state average of **4.9%**, and **9%** of the parish population lacked health insurance.



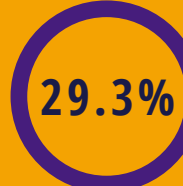
African American



Non-Hispanic White



Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch



Households Receiving SNAP



Households with No Vehicle



Lack Access to Exercise Opportunities



LSU AgCenter Healthy Communities Food Systems Assessment



Assessment Objective

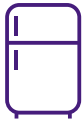
To assess the current food system needs in six rural parishes (Assumption, Tensas, St. Helena, Madison, East Carroll, and Morehouse) supported by the LSU AgCenter's Healthy Communities initiative.

Key Findings

- All six parishes had an abundance of community assets related to the food system. More than one hundred food access points were identified across all six parishes as having the potential to expand or improve their offerings of healthier foods.
- A strong network of community growers and producers was identified in all six parishes.
- Food distribution sites (food pantries, commodity distribution sites, and prepared meal sites) were found to have a high need for equipment and supplies to facilitate procurement and stocking of healthier foods. In addition, a need for procuring more healthy foods was identified for food distribution sites.
- Local grocery stores had the strongest food environment in terms of available healthy foods. Dollar stores were considered an important food access point for residents but scored relatively low compared to groceries in terms of available healthy foods. Residents did not view corner/convenience stores as a viable option for purchasing food, especially when using SNAP.
- Residents often shop for food outside their parish due to poor quality and high prices in their parish, however, five of the six parishes experience higher rates of homes with no vehicle ownership than the state average. Only three of the six parishes were found to have on-demand public transit.



Recommendations



Enhance capacity of food distribution sites to enable procurement and storage of healthier items such as fresh produce, lean meats, and low-fat dairy.



Connect food pantries with local producers identified in each parish. Introduce policies to ensure the sustainability of partnerships.



Implement client choice models and/or nutrition standards at food distribution sites to improve access to and sustainability of healthful foods.



Expand SNAP acceptance at local food outlets already selling fresh fruits and vegetables, such as farmer's markets and produce stands.



Target local grocery stores for healthy retail initiatives focused on connecting local producers to food retailers and making the healthy choice the easy choice for customers.



Increase ridership and awareness of available on-demand transportation services to improve community-wide access to available healthy foods.



Establish local and/or regional food policy councils to connect key food system stakeholders and ensure the sustainability of access to healthy foods in the community.

Resources



Client-Choice Food Pantry Guide:
<https://bit.ly/ClientChoicePantryGuide>

How to Accept SNAP Benefits at Farmers Markets: A Guide for Vendors:
<https://bit.ly/SNAPatFarmersMarkets>

Farmers Market Vendor Training:
<https://bit.ly/MarketVendorTraining>

Getting Started

Connect with LSU AgCenter Healthy Communities to learn more about how we're working to improve the food system in rural Louisiana communities!

healthycommunities@agcenter.lsu.edu
www.lsuagcenter.com/healthycommunities
www.facebook.com/LSUAgCenterHC

East Carroll Parish Food System Assets



Restaurants

Zip's	218 N Hood St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
The Dock	1829 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Sonic	501 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Da Sweet Spot	205 Charles Jones Blvd., Lake Providence, LA 70816
El Agave Grill	1828 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA

Grocers

Jong's   	217 N Hood St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Farmers Markets

Pecan Market	1214 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Convenience Stores

Farmers One Stop Inc 	10395 Hwy 134, Lake Providence, LA 71254
Outpost Travel Center 2 	9420 Hwy 65 S, Lake Providence, LA 71254
The Shack 	1827 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Ingleside 	1817 Highland Rd., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Uncle Pete's Discount 	1314 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Uncle Darrell's Mini Market 	1002 2nd St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Wiley's Fish Market 	7020 Highway 65 N., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Dollar Stores

Family Dollar Store 649 	300 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Dollar General 11364 	105 Moore St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Food Pantries

Christ Association	1320 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
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 = Currently sells fresh fruits and vegetables

Summer Feeding Sites

General Trass High School	700 Martin Luther King, Lake Providence, LA 71254 May 1 – August 31, Breakfast and lunch
Southside Elementary	1307 Gould St., Lake Providence, LA 71254 May 1 – August 31; Breakfast and lunch

Growers and Producers

Overby's Nursery & Roadside Stand 	Harmony Farms
T&T Produce 	Mom & Pop's Produce Stand 

Locally Produced

Fresh produce
Squash
Peaches



= Currently sells fresh fruits and vegetables



Use your Asset Map to visualize the networks of service organizations, community organizations, neighborhood resources, and other groups that exist to serve the community.

East Carroll Physical Activity Assets



Parks, Playgrounds, Fields, and Courts

Providence Park	Corner of Lake St. and Providence St.	Pocket park with walking loop, some (outdated) playground equipment, half basketball court, and a gazebo
Eugene Haley Sports Complex	328 Regenold Street (across the Lake)	Triple-diamond baseball complex; Baseball, T-ball, Softball leagues

Wildlife Refuges/Nature Preserves

Bayou Macon Wildlife Management Area	Primarily hunting area; one primitive camping area
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Other

Lake Providence	Lake Providence has water access open to public, but you must own your own equipment
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Use your Asset Map as a resource when considering advocacy and policy in your community. Asset Maps highlight the availability or lack of community assets, and they can serve as a powerful tool when trying to make a case for needed policy, locally or on a state level.



East Carroll Parish Healthy Communities Rural Active Living Report Card

(Amenities and facilities assessed are within a 15-mile radius of the Lake Providence town center.)

Town-Wide Assessment Score **45%**

Strengths: school location, parks and playgrounds

Areas for improvement: water activities, town programs, and town policies

School Location	
There is an elementary school in my town that children can walk to.	6/6
There is a middle school in my town that children can walk to.	5/5
There is a high school in my town that children can walk to.	4/4
	15/15
Trails	
There is a hiking or walking trail within 15-miles of the town center.	8/8
There is a biking path within 15-miles of the town center	0/8
There is some other type of trail within 15-miles of the town center.	0/8
	8/20
Parks and Playgrounds	
Public park	8/8
Public playground	8/8
School playgrounds with shared use	0/7
Other parks or playgrounds with community access	0/2
	16/25
Water Activities	
Public use swimming pools	0/4
Swimming beach	0/4
River with canoe/boat/water-sport access	1/1
Other water activity amenities and facilities	0/1
	1/10
Recreation Facilities	
Town recreational center (town-owned, YMCA, etc.)	0/10
Playing field or courts	7/7
Skate park	0/7
Private fitness facility (e.g. Gold's, Curves, etc.)	1/2
Roller skating rink	0/2
Ice skating rink	0/2
Other recreation facilities or amenities	0/6
	8/36
Total Points Earned 48/106	

Policy and Programs Score 25%

Town Policies



Town has a policy requiring bikeways/pedestrian walkways in new public infrastructure projects.

0/10

0/10

Town Programs



Town has a public recreation department.

0/10

Town has a private recreation organization (e.g. YMCA)

0/4

Either public or private department/organization (or both) offers physical activity programming for youth.

0/4

Either public or private department/organization (or both) provides scholarship/sliding fee scale for lower income residents.

0/4

There are organized transportation options (either public or private) that help children get to/participate in physical activity opportunities.

0/4

Public or private department/organization (or both) allows resources/facilities to be available for local resident use outside of programming.

0/4

0/30

School Policies



Schools in the town allow public access to their recreation facilities after school hours.

0/15

Public Schools offer a late-bus option for children that stay after school for sponsored activities.

15/15

15/30

School Programs



There are "Walk to School" programs or other programs that encourage children to walk or bike to school.

0/15

Schools are participating in other activities (excluding "Walk to School" programs) that are included in the National "Safe Routes to School" program.

0/5

Schools offer other sponsored physical activity initiatives for students (do not include gym/phys-ed classes).

10/10

10/30

Total Policy and Programs Points Earned 25/100

East Carroll Parish Community Assets



Education

Public Schools

Southside Elementary	1307 Gould Blvd., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Griffin Middle School	1205 Charles Jones Blvd., Lake Providence, LA 71254
General Trass High School	700 Martin Luther King Jr. Dr., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Private Schools

Briarfield Academy	301 Par Rd. 3346, Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Early Care and Education (ECE)

Wee Learners' Daycare Center	1437 1/2 Griffin Avenue Lake Providence, LA 71254	Private Provider Number of students: 16
Delta Community Action Head Start Lake Providence	300 Second Street Lake Providence, LA 7125	Head Start Number of students: 104
Earnestine H Thompson	1104 2nd St., Lake Providence, LA 71254	Family Home Provider Number of students: 6
Chandra Thompson	706 Millikin Street Lake Providence, LA 71254	Family Home Provider
Doris Wilson	310 Oak St Lake Providence, LA 71254	Family Home Provider Number of students: 6
Judy Siggers	1021 Hood Street Lake Providence, LA 71254	Family Home Provider Number of students: 6
Virginia Lockhart	707 Millikin Street Lake Providence, LA 71254	Family Home Provider Number of students: 6
Michelle Lockhart	707 Millikin Street Lake Providence, LA 71254	Family Home Provider Number of students: 6
First Baptist Church Day Care	304 Davis Street Lake Providence, LA 71254	Private Provider Number of students: 24
Southside Elementary School	1307 Gould Street Lake Providence, LA 71254	

Private Schools

Louisiana Delta Community College	156 Hwy 883-1, Lake Providence, LA 71254
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School Board

East Carroll Parish School Board	514 3rd Street, Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Citizen's Associations

Community Centers

Louisiana State Cotton Museum	7162 US-65, Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Seniors' Groups

East Carroll Council on Aging	600 1st St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Youth Groups

4-H	LSU AgCenter; Southern University AgCenter
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Other Citizen's Associations

American Legion	Lake Providence, LA 71282
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Community Organizations

Faith Based Organizations

China Grove Baptist Church	810 White Rd., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Northside Church of Christ	147 Gospel Ln., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Christ Association 	1320 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Evergreen Baptist Church	6518 Highway 65 N, Lake Providence, LA 71254
First Pentecostal Church of Lake Providence	7372 Highway 65 N, Lake Providence, LA 71254
First Baptist Church	304 Davis St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Providence Church	175 Estuary Dr., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Mt Zion Baptist Church	10522 Highway 65 S, Lake Providence, LA 71254
New Hope Missionary Baptist Church	317 Mill St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Mt Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church	1113 Blount St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
St. Patrick	207 Scarborough St, Lake Providence, LA 71254
First Assembly of God	108 Gospel Ln, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Social Services

Parents as Teachers	Home visit program for new moms
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Substance Abuse Homes, Domestic Violence Shelters, Counseling Services

Delta Recovery Center	411 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
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= Food Pantry

Private Sector

Chamber of Commerce

East Carroll Chamber of Commerce	600 Lake Street, US Hwy 65, Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Banks

Delta Bank	406 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
First South Farm Credit	109 Davis St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Capital One	216 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Local Business and Retail

River's Edge Hair Salon	Lake Providence, LA 71254
Painted Petal	324 Lake St, Lake Providence, LA 71254
Carquest Auto Parts- Bob's Auto and Tractor	306 Sparrow St, Lake Providence, LA 71254
Joe's Auto Services & Repair	1345 Sparrow St, Lake Providence, LA 71254
Capital One	109 Hood St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Cash 2 U	401 Lake St, Lake Providence, LA 71254
Lakeside Service	7248 US-65, Lake Providence, LA 71254
Tommy Ellis Family Furniture	201 N Hood St, Lake Providence, LA 71254
Price Cutter	303 Lake St, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Insurance Companies

Farm Bureau Insurance	74 Davis St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Henry A. Wilson Insurance	115 Scarborough St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Local, State and Federal

Post Office

Post office	202 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Post office	13119 Hwy 65 S, Transylvania, LA 71286

Police

Lake Providence Police	201 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
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Emergency Personnel

East Carroll Fire Department	409 Lake St., Lake Providence, LA 71254
Lake Providence Fire Department	311 Sparrow St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

East Carroll Parish Ambulance Service

336 N Hood St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Library

East Carroll Parish Library

109 Sparrow St, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Transportation Services

Madison Council on Aging Van

Provides rides to residents of Lake Providence for a fare

Government Agencies

East Carroll Parish Courthouse (Clerk of Court)

400 1st St, Lake Providence, LA 71254

River Bend Detention Center

9450 US-65, Lake Providence, LA 71254

East Carroll Parish Detention Center

219 Hollybrook Rd., Lake Providence, LA 71254

East Carroll Workforce Center

407 2nd St. B, Lake Providence, LA 71254

East Carroll District Attorney

310 Morgan St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

East Carroll Sewer Department

400 3rd St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

East Carroll Police Jury

400 1st St #5, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Medical and Healthcare

Public and Private Hospitals and Medical Practices

East Carroll Parish Hospital

336 N Hood St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Family Practice Pediatrics

320 N Hood St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Lake Providence Medical Clinic

319 N Hood St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

East Carroll Health Unit



407 2nd St., Lake Providence, LA 71254

Pharmacies

M & S Super Drugs

303 N Hood St, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Express Rx of Lake Providence

303 N Hood St #1, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Minsky Drug Store

405 Lake St, Lake Providence, LA 71254



Share your
Asset Map
with community
organizations to
encourage
networking and
collaboration on
common initiatives.

Louisiana Obesity Prevention Standards and Legislation

Policy Type	Policy #	Policy Description
	HCR 150	Directs the Department of Social Services to assess efforts in Louisiana to promote healthy food choices among recipients of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
	HCR 231	Requests the Office of Group Benefits to conduct a study on the financial benefits of establishing a program to address the high rate of obesity in Louisiana.
	Act 388	Aims to stimulate investment in healthy food retail outlets in underserved areas and to combat food deserts by insuring everyone has access to fresh fruits and vegetables.
	Act No. 252	Healthy Food Retail Act to stimulate investment in healthy food retail outlets in underserved areas. Program created in the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and currently not funded.
	ACT 306	Amended 2005 Act 331, School Vending Bill, to provide that 100 (previously 50%) of beverages sold on high school campuses adhere to healthy guidelines.
	SCR 94	Requests the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and the Department of Education to implement a Farm to School Program and to assist schools with local procurement options for fresh fruit, vegetables, meats, and seafood.
	SCR 96	Requests the Department of Health and Hospitals and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to submit jointly a report to the legislature regarding the availability of water for student consumption at elementary and secondary schools.
	HB 1	Among other items, sets standards for nutritious meals. The bill sets performance indicators for the School Food and Nutrition Program and for child and adult care food and nutrition activities to ensure that nutritious meals are served to children.
	HB 193	Authorizes the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to promulgate rules and regulations to implement U.S. Department of Agriculture nutrition programs. The bill requires the Department of Education to implement the nutrition programs pursuant to such rules and regulations. It allows the department to conduct studies regarding methods of improving and expanding nutrition programs and promoting nutritional education in the schools, and also authorizes the department to conduct appraisals of the nutritive benefits of nutrition programs and report its findings and recommendations to the governor.

	HB 767	Revises nutrition standards for beverages sold in public high schools. The bill states that beverages offered for sale to high school students will be comprised of bottled water; no calorie or low-calorie beverages that contain up to 10 calories per eight ounces; up to 12-ounce servings of beverages that contain 100 percent fruit juice with no added sweeteners and up to 120 calories per eight ounces; up to 12 ounce servings of any other beverage that contains no more than 66 calories per eight ounces; or low-fat milk, skim milk and non-dairy milk. It requires that at least 50 percent of non-milk beverages be water and no-calorie or low-calorie options that contain up to 10 calories per eight ounces.
	SB 299	The Healthy Food Retail Act requires the Department of Agriculture and Forestry to establish a program that provides grants and loans to healthy food retailers that increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables and other affordable healthy foods in underserved communities. The program can finance new grocery store construction and renovations, farmers' markets and public markets; and food cooperatives, mobile markets and healthy food delivery projects. Applicants must demonstrate that they will sell fresh fruits and vegetables in underserved communities, especially to SNAP and Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) participants.
	HCR 209	Requests the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education to study the feasibility of increasing PE units required for high school graduation.
	Act No. 256	Provides for health-related fitness assessments to determine physical fitness levels of students in schools. Review of current pilot program using Fitnessgram with intent to expand statewide.
	Act 180	Requires the Department of Education to hire a Health and Physical Education Coordinator who will be responsible for the development, implementation, and monitoring of health and physical education curricula in all public elementary and secondary schools in the state.
	Act 734	Physical fitness and nutrition of students. Establishment and implementation of a pilot program and School Health Awards for outstanding program of physical activity. Public schools, grades K-6, provide 30 minutes each school day of quality, moderate to vigorous physical activity.
	ACT 286	Requires physical activity for students (K-8, at least 30 min per day) and establishment of School Health Advisory Councils in each city, parish and other local public school board.
	ACT 351	Provides that elementary, secondary, or charter schools that enter into a joint-use agreement do not incur any liability for injuries to persons or property. Joint use agreements expand access to playgrounds, gymnasiums, and tracks that are already located within communities

	SCR 95	Requests the Department of Education to issue a report as to the number of joint-use agreements in place throughout the state and include a plan to promote the use of such agreements.
	SB 309	Provides for health-related fitness assessments to determine physical fitness levels of students in schools to reduce childhood obesity, including baseline measures of fitness and body mass index and measurement of the effectiveness of interventions. The bill expands a pilot program to provide statewide implementation focused on school systems with high poverty levels.
	HB 400	Requires public schools to provide at least 30 minutes of physical activity each school day for students in grades seven and eight. The bill also requires each city, parish and local school board to establish a local school health advisory council, the members of which shall be appointed by the school board.
	Bulletin 741	Requires students in grades 1-8 to receive 150 minutes of physical education per week. Allows an approved Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp program to be substituted for the 2 credits of health and physical education upon board approval. This code further allows students to be exempted from this requirement for medical reasons only, but the number of credits required for graduation remains at 23.
	RS 17:17.1	Requires each elementary and secondary school to provide improved physical activity and fitness in schools by encouraging innovative physical education programs.
	Bulletin 741	Requires 1.5 units of physical education for public high school graduation. In The Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators (2005), requires 2 units of health and physical education for non-public high school graduation.
	RS 17:276	Requires each public secondary school to offer, as part of the physical education program, sexually segregated contact sports and sexually integrated noncontact sports with the options for students to choose either or both.
	RS 17:1941	Requires school districts to make available physical education services, specially designed if necessary, to every student with a disability receiving a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). It also requires schools to make available specially designed physical education (Adapted Physical Education) for students with disabilities as prescribed in the student's Individual Education Program (IEP).
	Bulletin 102	Outlines state Physical Education Content Standards (2009). The standards document also serves as a suggested curriculum framework, although local schools are not required to adhere to it.
	RS 17.17.5	Provides for health-related fitness assessments to determine physical fitness levels of students in school. The bill expands a pilot program to provide for statewide implementation focused on school systems with high

		poverty levels.
	Act No. 147	Provides for bicyclists and vehicle safety.
	SCR 110	Requests formation of a complete streets work group in the Department of Transportation and Development that will develop complete streets guidelines that will apply any time state or Federal funds are used to build a roadway or bridge.
	SCR 77	Requests the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) and DOE to examine the adequacy of current practices for ensuring preventive health and well-being of adolescents in Louisiana.
	ACT 288	Provides for the establishment and administration of a targeted coordinated school health program for the purpose of reducing childhood obesity and a grant program to assist public school governing authorizes with implementation.
	HB 538	Creates the Agricultural Products Processing Development Fund to support development and enhancement of processing raw agricultural products by providing loans to eligible facilities through the Louisiana Agricultural Finance Authority.
	HB 358	Provides that elementary, secondary, or charter schools that enter into a joint-use agreement do not incur any liability for injuries to persons or property. It does not exclude liability for gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct. Provides that the school executing a joint-use agreement shall require the other party to maintain and provide proof of insurance coverage. Provides much needed clarification and will expand access to playgrounds, gymnasiums, and tracks that are already located within communities.

Policy Type Key



Physical



School



Nutrition



Transportation

Authors

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