

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

COASTAL RESOURCES: Reaffirms support for the annual Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Mapping Cruise conducted by Louisiana State University and the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium and memorializes Congress to provide continued funding

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request continued support for the annual Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Mapping
3 Cruise conducted by Louisiana State University (LSU) and Louisiana Universities
4 Marine Consortium (LUMCON) and its importance as a measure of progress in
5 reducing the hypoxic zone off Louisiana's coast, as well as memorializing
6 Louisiana's Congressional Delegation and the U.S. Congress to authorize its
7 continued funding.

8 WHEREAS, the growth of a large area of low oxygen off Louisiana's coast, known
9 as the Gulf of Mexico Hypoxic Zone or "Dead Zone", has been a long-standing issue of
10 concern for the state because of the risks it poses for our commercial and recreational fishing
11 and seafood industries, and its wider impacts on marine life in the Gulf; and

12 WHEREAS, the annual Gulf Hypoxia Mapping Cruise has been conducted since
13 1985, providing a long-term baseline and record of data on the extent and formation of the
14 hypoxic zone, which has in turn aided the development of models to predict its yearly size
15 and future trends; and

16 WHEREAS, the Gulf Hypoxia Mapping Cruise employs and engages Louisiana
17 scientists, researchers, graduate and undergraduate students, cooperating universities, and
18 other partners and provides the main measure of progress for the Gulf Hypoxia Action Plan
19 in which Louisiana and eleven upriver states have participated since 1997; and

1 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature has memorialized its support for the Gulf
2 Hypoxia Action Plan and the state's continued participation in its efforts to reduce the Gulf
3 of Mexico Hypoxic Zone in repeated resolutions such as House Concurrent Resolution No.
4 47 in the 2000 Regular Session, House Concurrent Resolution No. 80 in the 2007 Regular
5 Session, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 40 in the 2010 Regular Session, Senate
6 Resolution No. 84 in the 2012 Regular Session, House Concurrent Resolution No. 70 in the
7 2016 Regular Session, House Concurrent Resolution No. 30 in the 2019 Regular Session,
8 House Concurrent Resolution No. 48 in the 2021 Regular Session, and House Concurrent
9 Resolution No. 98 in the 2022 Regular Session and has expressed support for the Gulf
10 Hypoxia Mapping Cruise in House Concurrent Resolution Nos. 65 and 64, in the 2017 and
11 2020 Regular Sessions, respectively; and

12 WHEREAS, the annual Gulf Hypoxia Mapping Cruise has largely been funded
13 through the federal National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), reflecting
14 the importance of Louisiana's coastal fishery and waters as resources of national concern,
15 and continued federal funding of the Gulf Hypoxia Mapping Cruise is at risk.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
17 reaffirm that the Louisiana Legislature expresses its continued support for the annual Gulf
18 of Mexico Hypoxia Mapping Cruise conducted by LSU and LUMCON, as well as support
19 for its continued funding by NOAA, and memorializes the United States Congress and
20 Louisiana Congressional Delegation to authorize such funding.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
22 Louisiana Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and each member of the Louisiana Congressional
23 Delegation.

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 29 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Zeringue

Urges and requests continued support for the annual Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Mapping Cruise conducted by LSU and the La. Universities Marine Consortium and memorializes Congress to provide continued funding.