

1 WHEREAS, this action by the USFWS removed the enforcement mechanism that
2 previously restricted the growth of hunting over intentionally flooded standing crops; and

3 WHEREAS, concerns have been raised that the practice of flooding standing crops
4 may alter natural waterfowl migratory patterns and reduce the number of ducks reaching
5 Louisiana, potentially impacting both wildlife populations and the state's hunting economy;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, in January 2026, United States Senator John N. Kennedy formally
8 requested that the USFWS study the effects of these hunting practices on waterfowl
9 migration and populations, emphasizing the need for scientific evaluation and habitat
10 protection; and

11 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana recognizes the importance of providing input to
12 federal wildlife agencies to ensure that management practices reflect the needs of both
13 wildlife and the communities that depend on them; and

14 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana finds it necessary to formally urge and
15 request the USFWS to study and, if appropriate, adjust hunting regulations and management
16 practices to protect waterfowl populations, preserve migratory patterns, and support
17 sustainable hunting and conservation in the state.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
19 urge and request the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a comprehensive
20 study on the impacts of crop-flooding and other hunting practices on waterfowl migration
21 and population levels, particularly in Louisiana and the Mississippi Flyway, and to evaluate
22 potential adjustments to hunting regulations and habitat management strategies that would
23 support sustainable waterfowl populations.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
25 director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

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 54 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

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Urges and requests the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a study on the impact of flooded corn on migratory waterfowl behavior and to reinstate the enforcement mechanism that restricted the growth of hunting over intentionally flooding standing crops.