

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY REPRESENTATIVE MONTOUCET

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to study the advisability of including Acadia Parish and Jefferson Davis Parish in the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority.

WHEREAS, Act No. 1008 of the 2010 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature created the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority composed of the parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vermilion and encompassing the Mermentau River basin; and

WHEREAS, the authority is established as a levee district with a board of commissioners appointed by the governor from nominations submitted by the governing authorities of Calcasieu Parish, Cameron Parish, and Vermilion Parish with each parish having three representatives serving on the board; and

WHEREAS, the primary duty of the board is to ". . . establish, construct, operate, or maintain flood control works as they relate to hurricane protection, tidewater flooding, saltwater intrusion, and conservation."; and

WHEREAS, the secondary duty of the board is ". . . to establish flood control, adequate drainage relating to tidal or riverine flooding, and water resources development including but not limited to construction of reservoirs, diversion canals, gravity and pump drainage systems, erosion control measures, and marsh management."; and

WHEREAS, these responsibilities lie primarily in the Mermentau River basin which originates north of the parishes of Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vermilion; and

WHEREAS, it is difficult to adequately address the mandated responsibilities without considering the origins of the Mermentau River and the upper reaches of the Mermentau River basin; and

WHEREAS, the origins of the Mermentau River and the upper reaches of the Mermentau River basin lie in the parishes of Acadia and Jefferson Davis; and

WHEREAS, consideration should be given to including both Acadia Parish and Jefferson Davis Parish in the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority and the appropriate agency to examine those questions and issues is the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to study the advisability of including Acadia Parish and Jefferson Davis Parish in the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report containing findings and recommendations from the study be submitted to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources no later than March 1, 2014.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the executive director of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the chair of the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE