

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 72

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEOPOLD

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Earl Armstrong for his many contributions to  
Plaquemines Parish

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Earl Armstrong, Jr., for his many contributions to Plaquemines Parish.

3 WHEREAS, Earl Armstrong is a cattle rancher in Plaquemines Parish who grew up  
4 along the river in Pilottown and is dedicated to the parish where he and his wife of nearly  
5 forty-nine years, Lynn Loga, have raised their five children; and

6 WHEREAS, Earl Armstrong heard stories in his youth about the land-building power  
7 of the Mississippi River and has fought valiantly for the West Bay Diversion of the  
8 Mississippi River; and

9 WHEREAS, thanks in large part to Mr. Armstrong, in 2002, the Army Corps of  
10 Engineers cut a hole in the Mississippi River levee to mimic nature and free the river to build  
11 new land; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2009, with the urging of Mr. Armstrong, the corps put in an artificial  
13 island a few miles away that slowed the flow of the river water through the levee cut, which  
14 allowed sandbars to form; and

15 WHEREAS, within six months of the construction of the artificial island, land  
16 rapidly began to emerge and vegetation took over, offering nesting areas for various birds  
17 and wildlife; and

18 WHEREAS, as a result of Mr. Armstrong's efforts in advocating for the West Bay  
19 project to remain open and build much-needed critical habitat, the Coastal Wetland Planning,  
20 Protection, and Restoration Authority voted to keep West Bay open; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong lobbied to numerous local, state, and federal leaders in  
2 an effort to convince them that the closure of West Bay would have been a substantial blow  
3 to coastal restoration; and

4           WHEREAS, when virtually everyone else had given up on West Bay, Mr. Armstrong  
5 consistently believed that sandbars and land would start to build up as a result of the  
6 diversion; and

7           WHEREAS, thanks to the courageous efforts of Mr. Armstrong, the West Bay  
8 Diversion is a thriving success and provides a buffer to the rest of Plaquemines Parish  
9 against oncoming hurricanes; and

10          WHEREAS, Mr. Armstrong merits a special measure of commendation for his  
11 remarkable contributions to Plaquemines Parish and the state of Louisiana through his  
12 dauntless commitment to coastal restoration and for the tremendous pride that his friends,  
13 family, community, and the state have in the success of the West Bay project for which he  
14 worked so hard.

15          THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Earl Armstrong, Jr., for his selfless  
17 contributions to West Bay and Plaquemines Parish, does hereby recognize the extraordinary  
18 impact he has had on the restoration, protection, and preservation of the coast in  
19 Plaquemines Parish, does hereby record for posterity his tireless and dedicated efforts to  
20 keep the West Bay freshwater and sediment diversion project operational, and does hereby  
21 extend to him every good wish for continued success, prosperity, and happiness in the future.

22          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
23 to Earl Armstrong, Jr.

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#### 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)]

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Leopold

HR No. 72

Commends Earl Armstrong for his contributions to Plaquemines Parish and the West Bay Diversion project.