

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY REPRESENTATIVE ST. GERMAIN

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Harold Schoeffler in recognition of his advocacy to promote and enhance the Atchafalaya Basin for Louisiana citizens

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To commend Harold Schoeffler for his tireless advocacy to promote and enhance the
3 Atchafalaya Basin for Louisiana citizens.

4 WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin is the nation's largest and most productive river
5 swamp, spanning eight parishes and covering more than eight hundred thousand acres; and

6 WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin's bottomland hardwoods, swamps, bayous, and
7 backwater lakes are home to over two hundred fifty species of birds and more than one
8 hundred species of fish that attracts thousands of anglers, boaters, campers, hunters,
9 bicyclists, and bird-watchers each year; and

10 WHEREAS, Harold Schoeffler has been active in the fight for conservation of
11 Louisiana's coastal and wetland habitat, chief among them, the Atchafalaya Basin; and

12 WHEREAS, Harold Schoeffler has served in leadership roles in several groups
13 committed to these causes, including the Sierra Club, the Louisiana Coastal Coalition, and
14 as a cofounder of Save Our Coast; and

15 WHEREAS, Harold Schoeffler has demonstrated a lifelong commitment to the Boy
16 Scouts of America, first as a youth member and in adulthood as a decorated scouter serving
17 as scoutmaster of Troop 405, having distinguished himself amongst his scouting peers by
18 being nominated for, and presented with numerous awards in recognition of his work with
19 scouting youth, including the Saint George Award, the Bronze Pelican, and the prestigious
20 Silver Beaver Award; and

1 WHEREAS, through Harold Schoeffler's decades of commitment to passing along
2 the ideals of the Boy Scouts, and sharing his passion for preserving and experiencing the
3 Atchafalaya Basin to younger generations, has made him uniquely qualified to identify the
4 needs of user groups for undeveloped primitive lands for exploring, observing nature, and
5 for camping; his committed leadership has led him to discover available, undeveloped state-
6 owned land resources to meet these needs; and

7 WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin Program in the Department of Natural Resources,
8 is the designated agency to coordinate state efforts in the Atchafalaya Basin with those of
9 the federal government; and

10 WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin Program has a history of promoting public use
11 of the basin including working to implement recreation projects in the Atchafalaya Basin;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Harold Schoeffler nominated a project for increased use of the
14 Atchafalaya Basin to the Atchafalaya Basin Program with minimal cost that involved the
15 development of primitive camping areas on state-owned lands, and to facilitate this proposal,
16 he provided the design and location of what has become thirty separate primitive campsites
17 located on state-owned land in the Atchafalaya Basin available for all Louisianians to use,
18 free of charge; and

19 WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin Program adopted the primitive campsite project
20 nominated by Harold Schoeffler and the Louisiana Legislature approved the 2013 Basin
21 Annual Plan including demarcation and publication of map coordinates for primitive
22 campsites identified and designed by Harold Schoeffler; and

23 WHEREAS, today and for generations to come, there are now thirty primitive
24 campsites for all to enjoy, free of charge, in the Atchafalaya Basin.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
26 commend Harold Schoeffler for his advocacy for and promotion of access to, and increased
27 use of public lands in the Atchafalaya Basin, does hereby express to him enduring
28 appreciation for his distinguished service to the citizens of the state of Louisiana, and does
29 hereby recognize and record his vital contributions and tireless dedication to the cause of
30 promotion and preservation of the Atchafalaya Basin.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
2 to Harold Schoeffler.

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)]

St. Germain

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