

1 WHEREAS, water levels in the Comite and Amite Rivers reached record levels
2 during the flooding of August 2016 from the extraordinary rainfall; and

3 WHEREAS, had the United States Army Corps of Engineers completed the Comite
4 River Diversion Canal Project, the flooding impacts on the property within the Comite and
5 Amite Rivers' flood plain could have been mitigated or reduced entirely; and

6 WHEREAS, the Comite River Diversion Canal project was authorized in 1986 and
7 expected to be completed in 2012 and currently over \$100 million has been invested in the
8 project and the need for funding to complete the project has never been more necessary in
9 order to protect the region from the possibility of future catastrophic flood events.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
11 urge and request the office of community development within the division of administration
12 to evaluate the feasibility of using Community Development Block Grant funds received
13 from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Governor's
14 Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to evaluate the feasibility of
15 using any future Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding from the Federal Emergency
16 Management Agency to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the evaluation requested in this
18 Resolution, the office of community development can monitor and include in its findings
19 how many homeowners utilized Community Development Block Grant funding, an estimate
20 when the homeowner rehabilitation and reconstruction program will be completed, and the
21 balance of funds remaining in the program at its conclusion.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of community development and the
23 Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness shall each submit a
24 written report of its findings resulting from each of the evaluations requested in this
25 Resolution to the House Special Committee on Homeland Security and the Senate Select
26 Committee on Homeland Security no later than August 1, 2018.

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 95 Engrossed

2017 Regular Session

Hodges

Urges and requests the office of community development in the division of administration and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness to evaluate the feasibility of using Community Development Block Grant and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds from the federal government to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project.