

1 WHEREAS, the research also concluded that houses within .25 miles of the
2 Razorback Regional Greenway sell for an average of nearly \$15,000 more than houses two
3 miles from the trail; and

4 WHEREAS, the Silver Comet Trail Economic Impact Analysis and Planning Study
5 concluded that, in its current state, the Silver Comet Trail in Georgia produces
6 approximately \$120 million in total expenditures annually throughout the state, supporting
7 approximately 1,300 jobs and earnings totaling \$37 million; and

8 WHEREAS, the Outdoor Industry Association released a study, The Outdoor
9 Recreation Economy, finding that bicycling participants spend \$83 billion on bicycle tourism
10 and generate \$97 billion in retail spending; and

11 WHEREAS, additionally, the findings concluded that bicycle recreation spending
12 contributes to the creation of 848,000 jobs; and

13 WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Economic Analysis included outdoor
14 recreation for the first time in its 2018 study, estimating the economic output of outdoor
15 recreation to be \$734 billion, surpassing multiple industries such as agriculture, petroleum
16 and coal, and computer and electronic products; and

17 WHEREAS, the Bureau of Economic Analysis estimates bicycling contributes to \$96
18 million in annual retail sales; and

19 WHEREAS, in a recent study, the Active Transportation Transforms America
20 estimated an economic value of \$34 billion with active transportation infrastructure in its
21 current state, based on the economic value derived from trails from retail sales, tourism, the
22 increase in property value, and the attraction from companies desiring to do business in these
23 up-and-coming areas; and

24 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention define active
25 transportation as any human-powered means of transportation, such as walking or bicycling,
26 and link physical inactivity to the steady rise in rates of chronic health conditions in the
27 United States such as obesity, diabetes, heart disease, and strokes; and

28 WHEREAS, trails provide affordable exercise and recreation opportunities within
29 the community and can aid in increasing the overall health of people in communities due to
30 an increase in outdoor activities; and

1 WHEREAS, Louisiana is one of the most beautiful places in the country,
2 encompassing the mighty Mississippi River, countless lakes, and all of the magnificent
3 wonders of nature right at our fingertips, and an increase in tourism would provide an
4 economic increase to further beautify this great state; and

5 WHEREAS, Louisiana's next big project, "DELTA TRAIL...On the Mississippi
6 River", a bike and walking trail along the Mississippi River, will attract a huge amount of
7 tourism to Northeast Louisiana and will be built along the levee, allowing people to see more
8 of Louisiana in all of its facets throughout numerous parishes; and

9 WHEREAS, the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism,
10 in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Development shall provide
11 information and make written recommendations on the creation of the DELTA TRAIL in
12 Northeast Louisiana, beginning in Vidalia, Louisiana, and ending in East Carroll Parish in
13 Lake Providence; and

14 WHEREAS, the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism,
15 in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Development's recommendations
16 shall include the following:

17 (1) Identification of bicycle tourism trail routes and the benefits of bicycle tourism
18 trails.

19 (2) Design criteria.

20 (3) Estimated costs.

21 (4) Ideas for stakeholder engagement.

22 (5) Sustainability and best practices.

23 (6) Challenges with bicycle planning and development.

24 WHEREAS, the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism,
25 in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Development shall address
26 objectives for the tourism trail routes that establish the criteria for route locations, maps
27 routes, and connect existing bicycle, transit, rail, vehicle, and pedestrian networks with
28 potential tourism trails; and

29 WHEREAS, the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism,
30 in consultation with the Department of Transportation and Development shall address

1 objectives for fostering the development of safe bicycle tourism trails that establish the
2 design criteria for various bikeway accommodations, provide guidance to identify or
3 coordinate bikeway connections statewide, and provide guidance to identify costs associated
4 with development of various bikeway accommodations; and

5 WHEREAS, the DELTA TRAIL will span approximately eighty miles long, with
6 five rest areas along the way for campers, RVs, and vehicles to enjoy; and

7 WHEREAS, the trail will also include strategically placed benches and historical
8 markers throughout Concordia, Tensas, Madison, and East Carroll parishes; and

9 WHEREAS, the DELTA TRAIL will be a tourist attraction that yields a large
10 economic benefit for the state of Louisiana derived from retail sales and tourism, serve as
11 an active transportation tool to aid in increasing the overall health of people in the
12 communities, attract companies desiring to do business in these up-and-coming areas, and
13 increase property values in Northeast Louisiana.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
15 urge and request the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism, in
16 consultation with the Department of Transportation and Development to study the feasibility
17 of creating a bike and walking trail along the Mississippi River spanning approximately
18 eighty miles, beginning in Vidalia, Louisiana, and ending in East Carroll Parish in Lake
19 Providence and make recommendations in regards to the creation.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Culture, Recreation and
21 Tourism, office of tourism, in consultation with the Department of Transportation and
22 Development shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Transportation,
23 Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and
24 Public Works detailing its findings and recommendations for the creation of a bike trail
25 along the Mississippi River in Northeast Louisiana prior to March 1, 2021.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
27 to the secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism, and
28 the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.

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 22 Reengrossed 2020 Second Extraordinary Session Travis Johnson

Urges and requests the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism, in consultation with the Dept. of Transportation and Development to study the feasibility of creating a bike and walking trail along a specific portion of the Mississippi River. Requires that a written report relative to the creation of the bike trail be submitted to the House and Senate committees on transportation, highways and public works prior to March 1, 2021.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Add a provision to provide a date for the written recommendations by the Dept. of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, office of tourism, to be submitted to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add the Dept. of Transportation and Development to the feasibility study of creating a bike and walking trail along the Mississippi River in Northeast La.