

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE AND SENATOR WHITE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the governing authorities of St. Charles Parish, Jefferson Parish, Plaquemines Parish, St. Bernard Parish, Orleans Parish, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East, and the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West Bank to each devise and implement a plan for contributing to the remaining debt owed to the federal government for the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System and to report to the legislature by no later than December 1, 2021, on their plan and implementation thereof.

WHEREAS, sixteen years ago, Hurricane Katrina devastated the Southeastern quadrant of our state; and

WHEREAS, in the aftermath, in order to better protect the life and property of citizens of Southeast Louisiana in the future, Congress and the state embarked on an ambitious program to reduce future storm damage in the area, known as the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System (HSDRRS); and

WHEREAS, the project entailed countless manpower hours and metric tons of materials to construct and rehabilitate hundreds of miles of levees and floodwalls, new pumping stations, and water control structures in the southeast portion of the state; and

WHEREAS, since embarking on the HSDRRS project in 2008, the state has endured multiple hurricanes, at least three of which have caused historic damage to the southwestern portion of the state; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of five southeastern Louisiana parishes directly benefit from the HSDRRS project while the citizens of the state's remaining fifty-nine parishes are saddled with the cost for a storm drainage and protection system that does not directly impact them, their property, or their livelihoods; and

WHEREAS, as the state is faced with payments due on the HSDRRS project totaling more than one billion dollars, the Legislature believes that the five parishes and two flood protection authorities that directly benefit from the project should contribute towards payment of its cost.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the governing authorities of each of the following political subdivisions to devise and implement a plan for contributing to the remaining debt owed to the federal government for the Hurricane and Storm Damage Risk Reduction System: St. Charles Parish, Jefferson Parish, Plaquemines Parish, St. Bernard Parish, Orleans Parish, the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East, and the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West Bank.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby direct the governing authority of each such political subdivision to report to the legislature no later than December 1, 2021, on their plan and implementation thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each member of the legislature with a district that includes all or part of any of St. Charles Parish, Jefferson Parish, Plaquemines Parish, St. Bernard Parish, or Orleans Parish; to the governing authority of St. Charles Parish, Jefferson Parish, Plaquemines Parish, St. Bernard Parish, and Orleans Parish; and to the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - East and the Southeast Louisiana Flood Protection Authority - West Bank, for distribution to their membership.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE