

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 154

BY SENATOR LUNEAU

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the current structure of the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District and its board operations in comparison to other levee board operations throughout the state, and to report its findings and make recommendations to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works by March 1, 2023.

WHEREAS, Louisiana has developed a system of levee districts and levee boards which have built levees to control the natural flow of water for the benefit of the people of this state consisting of one thousand one hundred thirty-one miles of levee systems and approximately twenty-eight levee boards; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana is charged with the duty of enacting laws relative to levee districts and levee and drainage districts; and

WHEREAS, the laws pertaining to levee boards have been amended numerous times in recent years resulting in different statutes for different boards; and

WHEREAS, the types of levee systems include levee districts and levee and drainage districts, which do not operate with the same responsibilities and duties; and

WHEREAS, the levee districts and levee and drainage districts of this state are in need of a comprehensive review; and

WHEREAS, the levee districts and levee and drainage districts are considered public works of this state; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development is responsible for oversight of the majority of levee and drainage systems for the state; and

WHEREAS, the expertise and input of persons experienced with knowledge in the area of levee districts and levee and drainage districts can be highly beneficial to this study.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and requests the Department of Transportation and Development to study the current structure of the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf levee district and its board operations in comparison to other levee board operations throughout the state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall address all of the following:

(1) Whether the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District and its board operations are consistent with the other levee board operations throughout the state.

(2) Whether the number of commissioners on the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District is comparable to other levee board of commissioners.

(3) The feasibility of merging Grant Parish into the Red River, Atchafalaya, and Bayou Boeuf Levee District.

(4) Whether the duties of levee districts and drainage districts are effective pursuant to present law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall submit the report of its findings and make recommendations to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works by March 1, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Transportation and Development.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE