

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 231

BY REPRESENTATIVE MACK

BOATS/SHIPS/VESSELS: Urges and requests the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to modify administrative rules regarding the use of airboats in the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to modify administrative rules
3 regarding the use of airboats within the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management
4 Area.

5 WHEREAS, the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area (WMA) contains
6 112,615 acres of mostly flooded cypress tupelo swamp located along the southern shore of
7 Lake Maurepas in Ascension, Livingston, St. John the Baptist, and St. James parishes; and

8 WHEREAS, there are several waterways that run through the Maurepas Swamp
9 WMA, including the Blind River, Dutch Bayou, and their tributaries; and

10 WHEREAS, activities in the WMA include hunting and trapping, camping, birding
11 and wildlife viewing, fishing, and boating; and

12 WHEREAS, Section 111 of Part XIX of Title 76 (LAC 76:XIX.111) of the Louisiana
13 Administrative Code provides that airboats are prohibited on all wildlife management areas
14 (WMAs) and refuges; and

15 WHEREAS, the operation of motorboats is not prohibited on WMAs; and

16 WHEREAS, there is in fact regular motorboat traffic throughout the Maurepas
17 Swamp WMA; and

18 WHEREAS, the operation of airboats within the Maurepas Swamp WMA should not
19 be prohibited in areas where motorboat traffic is already allowed.

1 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
2 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Wildlife and Fisheries
3 Commission to modify the administrative rules regarding WMAs to allow the operation of
4 airboats in any area within the Maurepas Swamp WMA where motorboat traffic is allowed.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
6 chairman of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the secretary of the Department of
7 Wildlife and Fisheries.

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)]

HR 231 Original

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Urges and requests the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to modify the administrative rules for wildlife management areas (WMAs) to allow airboats to be operated in any areas within the Maurepas Swamp WMA where motorboat traffic is already allowed.