

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY SENATOR HENSGENS

COASTAL PROTECT/RES AUTH. Approves the annual state integrated coastal protection plan for Fiscal Year 2027, as adopted by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To approve the annual state integrated coastal protection plan for Fiscal Year 2027, as
3 adopted by the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority Board.

4 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:214.5.1 et seq., creates the Coastal Protection and Restoration
5 Authority Board (board) to represent the state's position in policy relative to the protection,
6 conservation, enhancement, and restoration of the coastal area of the state through oversight
7 of integrated coastal protection projects and programs; and

8 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:214.5.1 et seq., provides that the board shall develop,
9 coordinate, make reports on, and provide oversight for the annual state integrated coastal
10 protection plan; and

11 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:214.6.1 et seq., provides for the creation, duties, and
12 responsibilities of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (authority) as the
13 implementation and enforcement arm of the board and that through its offices and officers,
14 the authority shall be responsible for the implementation and enforcement of the annual state
15 integrated coastal protection plan; and

16 WHEREAS, the annual state integrated coastal protection plan represents a state
17 policy for protecting, conserving, enhancing, and restoring Louisiana's coastal area through
18 the construction and management of integrated coastal protection projects and programs,

1 including coastal protection and restoration projects and hurricane protection projects, which
2 are projects that may require, without limitation, funding for associated measures such as the
3 beneficial use of dredged material, rehabilitation and repair of state restoration projects,
4 environmental and regulatory compliance, acquisition of land easements, rights-of-way,
5 relocations and disposal areas, maintenance programs, conservation and restoration
6 partnerships, reserve fund contingencies, and other innovative programs, provided that such
7 funding for associated measures shall be allocated to the projects based on priority status as
8 identified by the annual state integrated coastal protection plan in order to more effectively
9 respond to the ever-changing coastal crisis; and

10 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:214.8.1 et seq., requires that the annual state integrated coastal
11 protection plan provided for in R.S. 49:214.2 include the annual basin plan for the
12 Atchafalaya Basin and such annual basin plan is included as Appendix D to the annual state
13 integrated coastal protection plan; and

14 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:214.5.3 requires that, as part of the development of the annual
15 state integrated coastal protection plan, the board shall conduct not less than three public
16 hearings in separate locations in the western, central, and eastern areas of the coastal area
17 for the purpose of receiving comments and recommendations from the public and elected
18 officials; and

19 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:214.5.3 also requires that at least two weeks prior to each public
20 hearing, the board shall contact the parish governing authorities, regional flood protection
21 authorities, levee districts, and the state legislators of the parishes in the coastal areas for the
22 purpose of soliciting their comments and recommendations and notifying them of the public
23 hearing to be held in their area; and

24 WHEREAS, R.S. 49:214.5.3 requires the board to receive written comments and
25 recommendations until thirty days prior to the submission of the annual state integrated
26 coastal protection plan to the legislative committees; and

27 WHEREAS, as required under the provisions of R.S. 49:214.5.3, the annual state
28 integrated coastal protection plan adopted by the board shall be submitted to the House
29 Committee on Natural Resources and Environment, the Senate Committee on Natural
30 Resources, the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, and the

