

1 WHEREAS, Louisiana's subtropical climate has the potential to produce heavy
2 rainfall at any time of the year, threatening residents, homes, and other property in every
3 parish of the state; and

4 WHEREAS, most injuries and deaths related to flooding occur when individuals are
5 swept away by flood currents, while most property damage results from inundation by
6 sediment and debris-filled water; and

7 WHEREAS, flood risk is determined not only by historical events but also by factors
8 including rainfall, topography, flood-control measures, river flow, tidal surge data, and
9 changes resulting from new construction and development; and

10 WHEREAS, over the years the legislature has sought ways to address flooding across
11 the state by enacting legislation to help prepare for natural disasters such as flooding; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2017, the legislature enacted Act 360 of the 2017 Regular Session
13 of the Legislature requiring the Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission to
14 review and revise the flood control database at least once every five years, provided funds
15 are specifically appropriated, and to ensure that no development in a parish or municipality
16 will have negative or detrimental effects on another parish or municipality; and

17 WHEREAS, in 2018, the legislature enacted Act 384 of the 2018 Regular Session
18 of the Legislature creating the Rural Grant Opportunity Program to provide a mechanism for
19 a municipality with fewer than five thousand people, or a parish with fewer than fifty
20 thousand people located in a rural area without financial ability to provide the local match
21 requirement of the Statewide Flood Control Program, to apply for funds; and

22 WHEREAS, in 2021, the legislature enacted Act 368 of the 2021 Regular Session
23 of the Legislature permitting a local government to conduct clearing and snagging and
24 dredging operations for drainage purposes in Bayou Manchac beginning May 1, 2021,
25 through August 1, 2026, without requiring a permit; and

26 WHEREAS, the men and women who work, as well as members who serve on
27 boards and commissions in the flood protection and storm water management industry, play
28 a vital role in flood preparedness and provide public awareness to Louisiana residents by
29 sharing knowledge and experience gained through decades of hazard mitigation; and

30 WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of its communities,

