Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURFORD

WATERWAYS/NAVIGATION: Requests that the United States Army Corps of Engineers maintain a minimum of 9 foot deep by 200 foot wide channel to allow safe and reliable barge transportation on the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request that the United States Army Corps of Engineers maintain, through its
3	dredging process, a minimum of a nine foot deep by two hundred foot wide channel
4	to allow safe and reliable barge transportation on the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway
5	on the Red River and to maintain such navigability on the Red River twenty-four
6	hours per day, seven days per week, three hundred sixty-five days per year, as
7	required by Section 101 of the River and Harbor Act of 1968, P.L. 90-483.
8	WHEREAS, in 1968 the United States Congress authorized the Red River Waterway
9	Project; and
10	WHEREAS, the purpose of the project was to enable year-round navigation on the
11	Red River by straightening the river, stabilizing its banks and constructing five locks and
12	dams; and
13	WHEREAS, the Port of Caddo-Bossier and others were constructed to grow
14	commerce on the Red River, one of the region's top assets; and
15	WHEREAS, in 2007 an economic impact study concluded that the economic benefit
16	of the project to the seven-parish region included attracting four billion six hundred million
17	dollars in new monies, increasing household earnings by two billion eight hundred million
18	dollars, and creating an average of two thousand one hundred seven new jobs per year; and
19	WHEREAS, the United States Army Corps of Engineers has issued a Congressional
20	mandate to assure such navigability for commercial and recreational development; and

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- WHEREAS, a minimum nine foot deep by two hundred foot wide channel provides reliable usage of the Red River, not only for current industries, but for others considering
- 3 locating to the Red River; and

WHEREAS, in addition, the Red River is utilized for recreation and tourism,
including hosting the 2009 and 2012 Bassmaster Classic, which is another import economic
development engine.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 8 urge and request that the United States Army Corps of Engineers maintain, through its 9 dredging process, a minimum of a nine foot deep by two hundred foot wide channel to allow 10 safe and reliable barge transportation on the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway on the Red River 11 and to maintain such navigability on the Red River twenty-four hours per day, seven days 12 per week, three hundred sixty-five days per year, as required by Section 101 of the River and 13 Harbor Act of 1968, P.L. 90-483. 14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each

- 15 member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.
- 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
- 17 Colonel Jeffrey R. Eckstein, district commander of the Vicksburg District, United States
- 18 Army Corps of Engineers.

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)]

Burford

HCR No. 109

Urges and requests that the United States Army Corps of Engineers maintain, through its dredging process, a minimum of a 9' deep by 200' wide channel to allow safe and reliable barge transportation on the J. Bennett Johnston Waterway on the Red River and to maintain such navigability on the Red River 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year, as required by the River and Harbor Act of 1968.