



1           WHEREAS, Giant Salvinia is very difficult to control with direct and aerial  
2 application of foliar herbicide applications because the leaves have specialized hairs that are  
3 very efficient at keeping water off the leaf making it very difficult for herbicides to be  
4 absorbed by the plant; and

5           WHEREAS, herbicide applications only affect the top layer of the up to three foot  
6 mat of plant material, and the mats float and move on the surface making consistent  
7 reapplication of herbicide difficult; and

8           WHEREAS, other methods of control have included introduction of grass carp and  
9 weevils to consume the plants, draining lakes and drying the lake bottom, and the use of  
10 mechanical harvesters; and

11           WHEREAS, water hyacinth, a South American native, was first introduced to the  
12 United States as an ornamental plant at the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial  
13 Exposition in New Orleans in 1884 and frequently clogs bayous and canals, impedes boat  
14 traffic, slows water currents, and blocks light to native submerged aquatic vegetation,  
15 degrading water quality and harming wildlife; and

16           WHEREAS, hydrilla, originally from Asia, is a rooted, aquatic weed that inhabits  
17 both deep and shallow waters forming thick mats that impede boat traffic and swimming and  
18 adversely affects water quality by shading out native vegetation, lowering dissolved oxygen  
19 concentrations, and can result in fish kills.

20           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
21 urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to study the methods of  
22 controlling and eradicating Giant Salvinia, water hyacinth, and hydrilla and to report with  
23 recommendations of the most cost-effective method, or combination of methods, to the  
24 House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on  
25 Natural Resources on or before February 15, 2014.

26           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
27 secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

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**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)]

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Patrick Williams

HCR No. 159

Urges and requests the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to study the methods of controlling and eradicating Giant Salvinia, water hyacinth, and hydrilla, and to report with recommendations the most cost-effective method, or combination of methods, to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources on or before Feb. 15, 2014.

**Summary of Amendments Adopted by House****House Floor Amendments to the original resolution**

1. Add control and eradication of water hyacinth and hydrilla to the study.