

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 181

BY REPRESENTATIVE MINCEY

FLOODING/CONTROL: Urges and requests the office of community development to work with the Louisiana Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region for the Amite River Basin

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the office of community development to work with the Louisiana
3 Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region for the Amite River
4 Basin.

5 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana created the Amite River Basin Drainage and
6 Water Conservation District by Act No. 896 of the 1981 Regular Session of the Legislature
7 to function as the floodplain manager and coordinator of flood risk reduction in the basin;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the Amite River Basin is comprised of the Parishes of Ascension, East
10 Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Livingston, St. Helena, and St. James; and

11 WHEREAS, all of these parishes were declared disaster areas in 2016; and

12 WHEREAS, the Amite River Basin includes the most populous parish in the state
13 and two of the fastest growing parishes in Louisiana; and

14 WHEREAS, the region includes three of the most impacted parishes in all of the
15 2016 floods, one of these parishes experienced three presidential disaster declarations within
16 an eleven month span; and

17 WHEREAS, building on an early investigation into innovative solutions, Governor
18 John Bel Edwards launched the Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI), governed by the
19 Council on Watershed Management, to reform the state's approach to flood mitigation; and

1 WHEREAS, the LWI is pursuing a holistic approach to watershed management, one
2 that goes beyond conventional mitigation measures and incorporates nature-based solutions;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, it is important that a system of management be developed for the
5 various watersheds in the state of Louisiana; and

6 WHEREAS, the LWI currently has eight watershed regions; and

7 WHEREAS, the most significant impact of the great floods of 2016 was within the
8 Amite River Basin, and it is imperative to move forward with management of the Amite
9 River Basin before the next flood event; and

10 WHEREAS, the Amite River Basin is currently located in region seven along with
11 several other parishes that are not within the basin; and

12 WHEREAS, by virtue of flood risk, present and future project development, prolific
13 data analysis, and watershed-based governance, the Amite River Basin must exist as its own
14 region within the Watershed Initiative.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the office of community development
17 to work with the Louisiana Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region
18 for the Amite River Basin.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
20 executive director of the office of community development and the regional watershed
21 coordinator for region seven of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative.

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 181 Original

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Urges and requests the office of community development to work with the La. Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region for the Amite River Basin.