

Regular Session, 2004

SENATE BILL NO. 44

BY SENATORS NEVERS AND SCHEDLER AND REPRESENTATIVES STRAIN AND  
MORRELL

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION

2 Proposing to add Article VII, Section 10.12 of the Constitution of Louisiana, relative to  
3 providing funds for the support of Louisiana farmers and fishermen; to establish the  
4 Agricultural and Seafood Products Support Fund as a special fund in the state  
5 treasury; to provide for sources of revenue, and for deposit and uses of monies in the  
6 fund; to authorize the legislature by law to provide for programs of assistance to  
7 Louisiana farmers and fishermen; to specify an election for submission of the  
8 proposition to electors and provide a ballot proposition; and to provide for related  
9 matters.

10 Section 1. Be it resolved by the Legislature of Louisiana, two-thirds of the members  
11 elected to each house concurring, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, for  
12 their approval or rejection in the manner provided by law, a proposal to add Article VII,  
13 Section 10.12 of the Constitution of Louisiana, to read as follows:

14 §10.12. Farmers and fishermen assistance programs; Agricultural and Seafood  
15 Products Support Fund

16 **Article VII, Section 10.12 is all new law.**

17 A. The legislature is authorized to provide by law for programs to assist  
18 Louisiana farmers and fishermen with support and expansion of their industries.

19 B.(1) The Agricultural and Seafood Products Support Fund is hereby  
20 established in the state treasury as a special fund, hereinafter referred to as the "fund".  
21 The source of monies in this fund shall be any monies received by the state from the  
22 licensing of trademarks or labels for use in promoting Louisiana agricultural and

1 seafood products; grants, gifts, and donations received by the state for the purposes  
2 of this Section; any other revenues as may be provided by law; and other monies  
3 which may be appropriated by the legislature to the fund. After compliance with the  
4 requirements of Article VII, Section 9(B) of this constitution relative to the Bond  
5 Security and Redemption Fund, and prior to monies being placed in the state general  
6 fund, an amount equal to that deposited into the state treasury from the foregoing  
7 sources shall be deposited in and credited to the fund. Monies in the fund shall be  
8 subject to appropriation in accordance with Paragraph (2) of this Section. All  
9 unexpended and unencumbered monies remaining in the fund at the end of the fiscal  
10 year shall remain in the fund. The monies in the fund shall be invested by the state  
11 treasurer in the same manner as monies in the state general fund.

12 (2) The monies in the Agricultural and Seafood Products Support Fund may  
13 be appropriated solely for the programs and purposes as required by the Department  
14 of Economic Development for assistance to Louisiana farmers and fishermen with  
15 support and expansion of their industries.

16 C. The provisions of this Section shall not apply to or affect funds allocated  
17 by Article VII, Section 4, Paragraphs (D) and (E).

18 Section 2. Be it further resolved that this proposed amendment shall be submitted to  
19 the electors of the state at the statewide election to be held on November 2, 2004.

20 Section 3. Be it further resolved that on the official ballot to be used at the election  
21 there shall be printed a proposition, upon which the electors of the state shall be permitted to  
22 vote FOR or AGAINST, to amend the Constitution of Louisiana, which proposition shall read  
23 as follows:

24 To authorize the legislature to provide by law for programs to assist Louisiana  
25 farmers and fishermen with support and expansion of their industries; to  
26 establish the Agricultural and Seafood Products Support Fund as a special  
27 fund in the state treasury; to provide for the sources of monies in the fund to  
28 be from the licensing of trademarks or labels for use in promoting Louisiana  
29 agricultural and seafood products, grants, gifts, donations received by the

1 state, any other revenues as provided for by law, and monies appropriated by  
2 the legislature to the fund; and to provide for sources of monies in the fund  
3 and use of monies appropriated from the fund for assistance to Louisiana  
4 farmers and fishermen. (Adds Article VII, Section 10.12)

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES