

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY SENATOR MORRISH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate the week of September 1 through September 7, 2019, as Resiliency Week in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, hazard mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters, such as the 2016 floods in Louisiana and numerous recent hurricanes and storms, and it is most effective when implemented under a comprehensive, long-term mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant Program, administered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), is designed to assist states and local communities in implementing a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program; and

WHEREAS, federal legislation recently signed into law, the Disaster Recovery Reform Act, makes available new dollars for states and communities to undertake pre-disaster mitigation measures and creates new incentives for states to build resiliently; and

WHEREAS, since 1908, natural disasters have cost this country more than one trillion dollars; and

WHEREAS, disasters affect local and state economies in lost payrolls, lost sales and income tax revenue, and increased disaster recovery times; and

WHEREAS, according to a FEMA-commissioned study conducted by the National Institute of Building Sciences, every dollar spent on hazard mitigation provides the nation with six dollars in future benefits; and

WHEREAS, twenty-five percent of small businesses impacted by a natural disaster never reopen their doors; and

WHEREAS, September is National Preparedness Month in recognition of the need for all Americans to prepare and plan for recovery after a disaster; and

WHEREAS, mitigation planning is a key process used to break the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage; and

WHEREAS, effective pre-disaster mitigation reduces the demand for relief services on volunteer organizations such as disaster rescue and recovery teams, along with food banks and homeless shelters that serve communities by changing their operations to provide additional services to those affected by disaster; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature honors brave women and men who, as first responders, selflessly provide aid in a disaster to safeguard the lives of the people; and

WHEREAS, the legislature encourages Louisiana communities to build resiliently and develop long-range mitigation strategies for protecting people and property, particularly in a state that has widespread low elevations and is threatened by hurricanes nearly every year.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate the week of September 1 through September 7, 2019, as Resiliency Week in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Paul T. Martin, Regional Vice President of NAMIC.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES