

1 and Mississippi, and LUMCON serves as the administrative and financial agent for the
2 program; and

3 WHEREAS, the Gulf Sustainability Consortium and the Gulf Research Initiative for
4 Resilient Louisiana Consortia have been created to consider the broader issue of coastal
5 needs; and

6 WHEREAS, a strong unified consortium is needed at this time, and LUMCON has
7 great potential as a leader in this field; and

8 WHEREAS, the role, mission, and structure of LUMCON in relation to these and
9 other entities should be evaluated with an eye toward creating a strong, collaborative
10 relationship with all existing consortia working in the coastal, wetlands, and marine
11 education areas; and

12 WHEREAS, state budget reductions have put the sustainability and faculty
13 productivity of LUMCON at risk; and

14 WHEREAS, a specific plan to maximize research coordination, faculty, and facilities
15 is needed to expand the successful reach of this institution; and

16 WHEREAS, the legislature recognizes the value of LUMCON as well as the need
17 to assess the current fiscal strength and long term support needed for the facility; and

18 WHEREAS, currently, the executive board is working diligently to develop a
19 comprehensive plan to address and support the future of LUMCON with the support of the
20 Board of Regents; and

21 WHEREAS, coastal and marine research and education are paramount not only to
22 Louisiana's economic viability but to its very existence.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
24 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Regents to study the
25 role, mission, and structure of the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium and report its
26 findings to the House Committee on Education not later than sixty days prior to the
27 convening of the 2012 Regular Session of the Legislature of Louisiana.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study also shall include an examination of
29 the relation of LUMCON to other consortia to determine the appropriate authority and
30 funding levels needed.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
2 chairman of the Board of Regents and the executive director of the Louisiana Universities
3 Marine Consortium.

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)]

Harrison

HR No. 50

Requests the Board of Regents to study the role, mission, and structure of the La. Universities Marine Consortium (LUMCON) and report its findings to the House education committee not later than 60 days prior to the 2012 R.S. Provides that the study also include an examination of the relation of LUMCON to other consortia to determine the appropriate authority and funding levels needed.