

1 Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act of 2012 (RESTORE)
2 that requires eighty percent of the fines to be deposited into the Gulf Coast Restoration Trust
3 Fund (trust fund) for restoration efforts in the five coastal states damaged by the spill:
4 Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas; and

5 WHEREAS, the monies from the trust fund will be principally divided into three
6 funding mechanisms, the Direct Component that evenly distributes thirty-five percent to the
7 five affected states; the Comprehensive Plan Component that directs thirty percent to the
8 Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council to implement a comprehensive Gulf Coast wide
9 recovery plan; and the Spill Impact Component that distributes thirty percent to the affected
10 states based upon a formula calculated on the miles of coastline affected by the oil spill,
11 distance from Deepwater Horizon, and the average 2010 population; and

12 WHEREAS, unfortunately, Louisiana has recent experience in administering
13 restoration and recovery programs in the wake of disasters such as hurricanes Katrina, Rita,
14 Gustav, and Isaac and has learned the value of real-time audit practices in terms of ensuring
15 proper expenditures, providing guidance to program administrators, and assuring
16 transparency of decisions for the public; and

17 WHEREAS, auditing after the fact provides little assistance for parish and county
18 governments with minimal resources to recoup large sums in the case of improper
19 expenditures; and

20 WHEREAS, the RESTORE Act provides for up to three percent for administrative
21 costs; there remains uncertainty whether those funds are only for the cost of the United
22 States Treasury Department administering the RESTORE Act and whether those funds can
23 be utilized by state and local governments for real-time audits.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
25 memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary for the proper
26 allocation of resources on the federal, state, and local level to fund real-time audit practices
27 in developing, planning, constructing, and executing projects funded by the RESTORE Act's
28 Gulf Coast Restoration Trust Fund to ensure proper expenditures and the restoration of the
29 Gulf Coast for the benefit of all the citizens of the United States.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
2 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the
3 United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

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)]

Champagne

HCR No. 50

Memorializes congress to take such actions as are necessary for the proper allocation of resources to fund real-time audit practices for projects funded by the RESTORE Act.