HLS 201ES-237 ORIGINAL

2020 First Extraordinary Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY REPRESENTATIVES BOURRIAQUE, COUSSAN, AND LACOMBE AND SENATORS HENSGENS AND LAMBERT

FUNDS/FUNDING: Memorializes Congress and the Louisiana congressional delegation to clarify the eligibility of freshwater fisheries impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic to receive CARES Act dollars

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana congressional delegation to take such actions as are necessary to clarify and provide guidance regarding the
take such actions as are necessary to clarify and provide guidance regarding the
ability of freshwater fisheries affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to receive
assistance funding from CARES Act dollars.
WHEREAS, three hundred million dollars in fisheries assistance funding has been
provided by Section 12005 of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security
(CARES) Act; and
WHEREAS, the United States Secretary of Commerce, through National Oceanic
and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries, has allocated fourteen million seven hundred
eighty-five thousand two hundred forty-four dollars with the specific purpose of assisting
Louisiana commercial fishermen, charter businesses, qualified aquiculture operations,
subsistence users, processors, and other fishery-related businesses affected by the COVID-19
pandemic through direct aid payments; and
WHEREAS, the United States Department of Commerce's determination has limited
qualified applicants to those who participate in various sectors of coastal and marine
fisheries, thereby precluding eligibility for freshwater fisheries; and
WHEREAS, Louisiana has thousands of commercially licensed freshwater
fishermen; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2019 freshwater fisheries harvest, including wild caught crawfish, 2 accounted for a dockside value of nearly twenty million dollars, illustrating how vital 3 freshwater fisheries are to the people and the economy of Louisiana; and 4 WHEREAS, the full scale of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on freshwater fisheries has not yet been determined; however, these fisheries have been directly 5 6 impacted. 7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 8 memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana congressional delegation to take 9 such actions as are necessary to clarify and provide guidance regarding the ability of 10 freshwater fishermen or fishery-related businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to 11 receive assistance funding from CARES Act dollars. 12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 13 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the 14 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)]

HCR 16 Original

2020 First Extraordinary Session

Bourriaque

Memorializes the U.S. Congress and the La. congressional delegation to take such actions as are necessary to clarify and provide guidance on the ability of freshwater fisheries or fishery-related businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to receive assistance funding from CARES Act dollars.