Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 62

BY REPRESENTATIVE HARRISON

COASTAL RES/COASTAL ZONE: Urges and requests the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to study Lake Verret as an alternative drinking water source for Bayou Lafourche

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to study the feasibility
3	of a project to utilize the freshwater of Lake Verret as an alternative drinking water
4	source for the residents along Bayou Lafourche.
5	WHEREAS, Bayou Lafourche serves as the primary water source for several drinking water
6	systems that serve over three hundred thousand people throughout the parishes of Ascension,
7	Assumption, Lafourche, and Terrebonne by freshwater conveyed from the Mississippi River
8	into Bayou Lafourche through a pumping station in Donaldsonville; and
9	WHEREAS, those residents came to realize just how precious Bayou Lafourche is
10	as a natural resource after Hurricane Gustav inundated the bayou with large volumes of
11	debris, fallen trees, and other vegetation which substantially blocked the flow of water, and
12	the decomposition of which resulted in the contamination of the water and impairment of
13	the water's availability, treatability, color, odor, and taste, rendering the bayou useless as a
14	drink water source; and
15	WHEREAS, since then the state of Louisiana has dedicated over forty three million
16	dollars to make this important resource more resilient, which has brought to light the need
17	for an alternate freshwater source besides pumping from the Mississippi River; and
18	WHEREAS, in the event of a pump station failure, major spill in the river, train
19	derailment, or some other catastrophic event, the Bayou Lafourche Fresh Water District has

- no other means to get fresh water into the bayou and to the residents who are dependent
 upon it; and
 WHEREAS, one alternative to address this problem is to utilize the freshwater of
 Lake Verret by constructing a structure at Cancienne Canal to Bayou Lafourche, channel
- 5 clearing and dredging within Cancienne Canal, and water quality analysis within Lake
- 6 Verret.
- 7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
- 8 urge and request the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to study the feasibility of
- 9 a project to utilize the freshwater of Lake Verret as an alternative drinking water source for
- 10 the residents along Bayou Lafourche.
- 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
- 12 to the executive director of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

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

HCR No. 62

Urges and requests the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority study the feasibility of a project to utilize the fresh water of Lake Verret as an alternative drinking water source for the residents along Bayou Lafourche.