2016 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 110

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBBY CARTER

WATER/RESOURCES: Urges and requests the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Department of Natural Resources to study the use of water from natural and scenic rivers for certain uses

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 2 To urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, in cooperation with the 3 Department of Natural Resources, to study the effects of certain withdrawals from 4 rivers and river segments in the natural and scenic river program and to report the 5 findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the 6 Senate Committee on Natural Resources. 7 WHEREAS, it is the constitutional duty of the legislature to enact laws to protect, 8 conserve, and replenish the natural resources of the state, including air and water, and the 9 healthful, scenic, historic, and aesthetic quality of the environment, insofar as possible and 10 consistent with the health, safety, and welfare of the people; and 11 WHEREAS, in furtherance of that duty the Legislature of Louisiana enacted the 12 Louisiana Scenic Rivers Act to preserve, protect, develop, reclaim, and enhance the 13 wilderness qualities, scenic beauties, and ecological regime of the unique and diverse free-14 flowing rivers, streams, and bayous for the present and future benefit of Louisiana citizens; 15 and 16 WHEREAS, the system of natural and scenic rivers is administered for the purpose 17 of preserving aesthetic, scenic, recreational, fish, wildlife, ecological, archaeological, geological, botanical, and other natural and physical features and resources found along 18 19 these streams or segments thereof; and

1	WHEREAS, Louisiana has the largest natural and scenic stream system in the nation
2	including more than eighty rivers or river segments; and
3	WHEREAS, beginning in the latter half of the last decade this state experienced an
4	oil and gas exploration and production boom with the economic viability of using hydraulic
5	fracturing stimulation operations to produce hydrocarbons from formations such as the
6	Haynesville Shale and the Tuscaloosa Marine Shale; and
7	WHEREAS, while this boom brought welcomed economic prosperity for workers,
8	property owners, and the state, it also brought the need for massive amounts of water for
9	these thirsty operations; and
10	WHEREAS, the United States Geological Survey estimates an average Haynesville
11	Shale well requires five million seven hundred thousand gallons of water; and
12	WHEREAS, there has been occasion where operators of hydraulic fracturing
13	stimulations operations obtained the required water from a river or river segment designated
14	as a natural and scenic river.
15	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16	urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, in cooperation with the
17	Department of Natural Resources, to study the effects of withdrawals for oil and gas
18	operations from rivers and river segments in the natural and scenic river program and to
19	report the findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the
20	Senate Committee on Natural Resources on or before March 1, 2017.
21	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
22	to the secretaries of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Department of Natural
23	Resources.

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)]

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Urges and requests the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, in cooperation with the Dept. of Natural Resources, to study the effects of withdrawals for oil and gas operations from rivers and river segments in the natural and scenic river program and to report the findings to the oversight committees on or before March 1, 2017.