

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY SENATOR THOMPSON AND REPRESENTATIVE SCHEXNAYDER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Office of Soil and Water Conservation and support its efforts to improve Louisiana's soil health, water quality, and agricultural and natural resources.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Conservation District Program, created by the Louisiana Legislature in 1938, established the Soil and Water Conservation Commission and Soil and Water Conservation Districts; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Soil and Water Conservation collaborates and provides support for forty-four statewide Soil and Water Conservation Districts; and

WHEREAS, the Soil and Water Conservation Districts function as unique local units of state government and provide conservation services for landowners across the state; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Soil and Water Conservation also collaborates with numerous partners to promote education and outreach for agricultural, wetland, and urban conservation and management projects; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Soil and Water Conservation works in collaboration with the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, to carry out programs and projects within the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, National Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, Farm Bill, Mississippi River Basin Healthy Watersheds Initiative, and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program; and

WHEREAS, the Office of Soil and Water Conservation works to provide essential services such as assisting the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality on the Agricultural Solid Waste Management Program and Clean Water Act, the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center on the Certified Prescribed Burn Manager Program and Master Farmer Program, and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority on the Coastal Vegetative Planting Program; and

WHEREAS, conservation programs serve the public interest by improving soil, water, and air quality and providing economic stability to many rural areas of the state; and

WHEREAS, the changing nature and increase in land use in Louisiana underscores the need for the Office of Soil and Water Conservation to continue to address soil and water needs in every parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Office of Soil and Water Conservation and support its efforts to improve Louisiana's soil health, water quality, and agricultural and natural resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Office of Soil and Water Conservation in the Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES