

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To create the Catahoula Lake Study Group to study the feasibility and advisability of

3 establishing a Catahoula Lake Commission.

4 WHEREAS, Catahoula Lake and Little River are bodies of water located primarily

5 in LaSalle and Rapides Parishes; and

6 WHEREAS, the Catahoula Lake Game and Fish Preserve Commission was first

7 established in 1952; and

8 WHEREAS, the Catahoula Lake Game and Fish Preserve Commission was abolished

9 and its duties were transferred to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in 1974; and

10 WHEREAS, LaSalle Parish and Rapides Parish have since created a local Catahoula

11 Lake game and fish commission pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 56:721 et seq.; and

12 WHEREAS, recent changes, concerns, and interests related to these water bodies

13 have called into question issues related to jurisdiction over the preserve, management and

14 maintenance of the preserve, and certain riparian rights; and

15 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial for the state to establish a Catahoula Lake

16 Commission in order to study these issues and to coordinate the interests of the state, the

17 Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, local parishes, and the local commission, as well as

18 private interests.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the

20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create a Catahoula Lake Study Group to study the

21 feasibility and advisability of the state establishing a Catahoula Lake Commission to study

1 and make recommendations regarding the issues of jurisdiction, management, and
2 maintenance of the preserve; riparian rights; the interests of state, local, and private
3 stakeholders; and any related matter to determine the best path forward for maintaining the
4 preserve.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall be composed of the
6 following members:

7 (1) The chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment
8 or his designee.

9 (2) The state representative from House District Number 20.

10 (3) The state representative from House District Number 22.

11 (4) The state representative from House District Number 27.

12 (5) The senator from Senate District Number 32.

13 (6) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or his designee.

14 (7) The attorney general or his designee.

15 (8) Two members appointed by the LaSalle Parish Police Jury.

16 (9) One member appointed by the Rapides Parish Police Jury.

17 (10) One member of the local Catahoula Lake Game and Fish Commission,
18 appointed by the local Catahoula Lake Game and Fish Commission.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study group shall elect a chairman and other
20 officers as it deems appropriate at its first meeting.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the study group shall serve
22 without compensation, except per diem or expense reimbursement to which they may be
23 individually entitled to as members or employees of their constituent organizations.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the total membership shall
25 constitute a quorum of the study group and any official action by the study group shall
26 require an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall prepare a written report
28 detailing its findings and any recommendations it may have to the House Committee on
29 Natural Resources and Environment, as required by R.S. 24:772, by February 1, 2023.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
2 secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, the attorney general, the LaSalle
3 Parish Police Jury, the Rapides Parish Police Jury, and the Catahoula Lake Game and Fish
4 Commission.

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)]

HR 129 Original

2022 Regular Session

Mike Johnson

Creates the Catahoula Lake Study Group to study the feasibility and advisability of establishing a Catahoula Lake Commission to study and make recommendations regarding jurisdiction, management, and maintenance of the Catahoula Lake Game and Fish Preserve; riparian rights; interests of state, local, and private stakeholders; and related matters.

Specifies that the study group will be composed of the following members:

- (1) The chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment or his designee.
- (2) The state representative from House District Number 20.
- (3) The state representative from House District Number 22.
- (4) The state representative from House District Number 27.
- (5) The senator from Senate District Number 32.
- (6) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or his designee.
- (7) The attorney general or his designee.
- (8) Two members appointed by the LaSalle Parish Police Jury.
- (9) One member appointed by the Rapides Parish Police Jury.
- (10) One member of the local Catahoula Lake Game and Fish Commission, appointed by the local Catahoula Lake Game and Fish Commission.

Requires the study group to elect a chairman from its membership at its first meeting and specifies that the members will serve without compensation, except for any per diem or reimbursement of expenses to which they are otherwise entitled.

Requires the study group submit a written report of its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment by Feb. 1, 2023.