2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 181

BY REPRESENTATIVE MINCEY

FLOODING/CONTROL: Urges and requests the office of community development to work with the Louisiana Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region for the Amite River Basin

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the office of community development to work with the Louisiana
3	Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region for the Amite River
4	Basin.
5	WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana created the Amite River Basin Drainage and
6	Water Conservation District by Act No. 896 of the 1981 Regular Session of the Legislature
7	to function as the floodplain manager and coordinator of flood risk reduction in the basin;
8	and
9	WHEREAS, the Amite River Basin is comprised of the parishes of Ascension, East
10	Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Livingston, St. Helena, and St. James; and
11	WHEREAS, all of these parishes were declared disaster areas in 2016; and
12	WHEREAS, the Amite River Basin includes the most populous parish in the state
13	and two of the fastest growing parishes in Louisiana; and
14	WHEREAS, the region includes three of the most impacted parishes in all of the
15	2016 floods, one of these parishes experienced three presidential disaster declarations within
16	an eleven month span; and
17	WHEREAS, building on an early investigation into innovative solutions, Governor
18	John Bel Edwards launched the Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI), governed by the
19	Council on Watershed Management, to reform the state's approach to flood mitigation; and

1	WHEREAS, the LWI is pursuing a holistic approach to watershed management, one
2	that goes beyond conventional mitigation measures and incorporates nature-based solutions;
3	and
4	WHEREAS, it is important that a system of management be developed for the
5	various watersheds in the state of Louisiana; and
6	WHEREAS, the LWI currently has eight watershed regions; and
7	WHEREAS, the most significant impact of the great floods of 2016 was within the
8	Amite River Basin, and it is imperative to move forward with management of the Amite
9	River Basin before the next flood event; and
10	WHEREAS, the Amite River Basin is currently located in region seven along with
11	several other parishes that are not within the basin; and
12	WHEREAS, by virtue of flood risk, present and future project development, prolific
13	data analysis, and watershed-based governance, the Amite River Basin must exist as its own
14	region within the Watershed Initiative.
15	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
16	Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the office of community development
17	to work with the Louisiana Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region
18	for the Amite River Basin.
19	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
20	executive director of the office of community development and the regional watershed
21	coordinator for region seven of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative.

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 181 Engrossed

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Urges and requests the office of community development to work with the La. Watershed Initiative to create an independent watershed region for the Amite River Basin.