

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 227

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

FLOODING/CONTROL: Urges and requests certain state agencies, working with the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana, to make recommendations relative to certain policies and laws impacting flood protection and restoration and its funding

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request that the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Governor's
3 Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Department of
4 Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation and Development, the
5 Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and
6 the Division of Administration's Office of Community Development work with the
7 leadership or designees of the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana (ALBL),
8 to recommend a legislative framework and the structure of a permanent nonstate
9 entity to track and advocate to address, change, propose, or modify federal policy
10 and law issues impacting flood protection and restoration throughout Louisiana and
11 to create a structure to receive outside funding for these same purposes and to deliver
12 a report regarding the same to the House of Representatives of the Legislature of
13 Louisiana prior to the 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature.

14 WHEREAS, the members of the ALBL, each being political subdivisions of the state
15 of Louisiana, regularly encounter federal agency policy issues, regulatory issues, executive
16 orders of the administration, and laws, existing or proposed, that adversely impact their
17 ability to provide flood protection and or drainage within their jurisdiction; and

18 WHEREAS, the above listed state agencies and offices also regularly encounter
19 federal agency policy issues, executive orders of the administration, and laws, existing or
20 proposed, that adversely impact their ability to provide flood protection, restoration,

1 recovery, construction, rehabilitation, and other services to the residents of the state of
2 Louisiana within their agency's charge and mission; and

3 WHEREAS, examples of these federal policies, circulars, guides, manuals, laws,
4 established definitions, among others, existing or proposed, include as a way of example but
5 are not limited to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP); the Federal Emergency
6 Management Agency (FEMA) Risk Rating 2.0; the NFIP Floodplain Management
7 Standards; the definition of Waters of the United States; the United States Army Corps of
8 Engineers National Levee Safety Program; the Magnuson-Stevens Act; the Gulf of Mexico
9 Energy Security Act; the Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems Act;
10 regulatory guidance on EPA section 404 and 408; the Rivers and Harbors Act; the United
11 States Department of Housing and Urban Development, and FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant
12 Funding and Disaster Relief Funding; the Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and
13 Restoration Act; the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation; and the Natural Resource
14 Damage Assessment; and

15 WHEREAS, state agencies and offices can find it challenging to both affect
16 programmatic changes in policy, procedure, and law as it pertains to the very programs they
17 administer on behalf of the citizens of Louisiana while at the same time administering these
18 important programs; and

19 WHEREAS, it is believed that the state agencies referenced in this resolution do not
20 have an appropriate avenue to receive outside, nongovernmental funding for flood
21 protection, drainage, restoration and other disaster recovery or remediation funds; and

22 WHEREAS, collectively, the above agencies and the ALBL do not have a
23 mechanism to hire appropriate services to advocate for tracking, monitoring, or
24 recommending change or other actions pertaining to federal agency policy issues, regulatory
25 issues, executive orders of the administration, and laws, existing or proposed, that adversely
26 impact their ability to provide flood protection and or drainage within their jurisdiction; and

27 WHEREAS, there is no statewide consolidated effort to provide timely responses to
28 federal issues related to flood protection, drainage and restoration as they may arise; and

29 WHEREAS, the citizens of Louisiana would benefit from a better coordinated state
30 effort in the formation of an entity working for these states agencies as part of or along with

1 the ALBL to address these federal flood protection and restoration issues timely and
2 effectively.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Coastal Protection and Restoration
5 Authority, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the
6 Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Transportation and Development, the
7 Department of Environmental Quality, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the
8 Division of Administration's Office of Community Development work with the leadership
9 or designees of the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana, to recommend a legislative
10 framework and the structure of a permanent nonstate entity to track and advocate to address,
11 change, propose, or modify federal policy and law issues impacting flood protection and
12 restoration throughout Louisiana and to create a structure to receive outside funding for these
13 same purposes and to deliver a report regarding the same to the House of Representatives
14 of the Legislature of Louisiana prior to the 2023 Regular Session of the Legislature.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
16 president of the Association of Levee Boards of Louisiana, the executive director of the
17 Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the director of the Governor's Office of
18 Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the secretary of the Department of Natural
19 Resources, the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development, the
20 secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality, the secretary of the Department of
21 Wildlife and Fisheries, and the executive director of the Division of Administration's Office
22 of Community Development.

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 227 Original

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Zeringue

Urges and requests the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the Dept. of Natural Resources, the Dept. of Transportation and Development, the Dept. of Environmental Quality, the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the Division of Administration's Office of Community Development work with the leadership or designees of the Association of Levee Boards of La., to recommend a legislative framework and the structure of a permanent nonstate entity to track and advocate to address, change, propose, or modify federal policy and law issues

impacting flood protection and restoration throughout La. and to create a structure to receive outside funding for these same purposes and to deliver a report regarding the same to the Legislature of La. prior to the 2023 R.S. of the Legislature.