HLS 23RS-946 ORIGINAL

2023 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY REPRESENTATIVES ORGERON AND WRIGHT

WATERWAYS/NAVIGATION: Expresses affirmation and resolute support for fostering a strong domestic maritime industry for the nation's economic prosperity

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To express affirmation and resolute support for fostering a strong domestic maritime
3	industry for the nation's security and economic prosperity.
4	WHEREAS, Louisiana's 2,800 miles of navigable waterways and pivotal role as the
5	gateway of the Mississippi River system make it central to the nation's maritime
6	transportation system and shipbuilding industry; and
7	WHEREAS, the global pandemic, hostilities in Europe, and overall geopolitical
8	instability have demonstrated the critical importance of maintaining resilient domestic
9	industries and transportation services to the citizens and workforce of Louisiana; and
10	WHEREAS, the Merchant Marine Act of 1920, known as the Jones Act and codified
11	in Title 46 of the United States Code, requires that vessels carrying cargo between locations
12	in the United States be owned by American companies, crewed by American mariners, and
13	built in American shipyards; and
14	WHEREAS, America's ability to project and deploy forces globally, and supply and
15	maintain military installations domestically, depends on the civilian fleet of Jones Act
16	vessels and mariners; and
17	WHEREAS, mariners aboard Jones Act vessels strengthen America's homeland
18	security as added eyes and ears monitoring the nation's 95,000 miles of shoreline and 25,000
19	miles of navigable inland waterways; and
20	WHEREAS, Louisiana is home to 70,780 maritime jobs supported by the Jones Act,
21	the highest among all states, that generate more than \$4.2 billion in worker income; and

1 WHEREAS, maritime industry jobs create ladders of opportunity through 2 high-paying, family-wage careers that offer significant advancement opportunities without 3 requiring advanced formal education; and 4 WHEREAS, the more than 40,000 vessel strong Jones Act fleet supports nearly 5 650,000 family-wage jobs and over \$154 billion in economic output nationally and \$18.2 6 billion to the Louisiana economy. 7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 8 affirm its resolute support for the Jones Act and celebrates the 103-year history of the Jones 9 Act in fostering a strong domestic maritime industry that is critical to Louisiana's and the 10 nation's security and economic prosperity. 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be immediately 12 transmitted to each member of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation.

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)]

HCR 4 Original

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Orgeron

Expresses the support of the legislature for the 103- year history of the Jones Act, which has created ladders for opportunities globally.