



1           WHEREAS, in March 2011, the United States Food and Drug Administration issued  
2 a health clearance for the Sabine Reef from previous water quality issues and management  
3 decisions regarding the future of the reef; and

4           WHEREAS, the commercial oyster industry is requesting that the Sabine Reef be  
5 opened to harvest, citing the challenges associated with the Deepwater Horizon oil leak  
6 incident and subsequent impacts to the commercial harvesting and processing of oysters; and

7           WHEREAS, Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for Sustainable Coastal  
8 Ecosystems requires integration and consideration of all state coastal actions and policies;  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, in recognition of  
11 numerous stakeholders' interest and concerns regarding management of the Sabine Reef, has  
12 established an advisory committee to identify issues to be considered and make  
13 recommendations.

14           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
15 urge and request that the office of coastal protection and restoration and the Department of  
16 Wildlife and Fisheries to jointly study shoreline protection, effects on marine species  
17 diversity and habitat quality, and economic and other ecosystem service values of the Sabine  
18 Reef located in Sabine Lake and report their findings and recommendations to the Senate  
19 Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Natural Resources and  
20 Environment by February 1, 2012.

21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
22 executive director of the office of coastal protection and restoration and the secretary of the  
23 Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Broussard-Johnson

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DIGEST

Morrish

SCR No. 18

Requests the office of coastal protection and restoration and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to jointly study shoreline protection, effects of marine species diversity and habitat quality, and economic and other ecosystem service values of the Sabine Reef.