ENROLLED

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY REPRESENTATIVES ST. GERMAIN, BOBBY BADON, BILLIOT, HENRY BURNS, FOIL, GISCLAIR, HENDERSON, SAM JONES, LAMBERT, MONTOUCET, AND MORRIS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To approve the Atchafalaya Basin Program Annual Plan, as adopted by the Atchafalaya Basin Research and Promotion Board.

WHEREAS, R.S. 30:2000.1 et seq., provides for the creation, duties, and responsibilities of the Atchafalaya Basin Program in the office of the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and the Atchafalaya Basin Research and Promotion Board; and

WHEREAS, public participation in the development of the Annual Basin Plan is essential to the success of the Atchafalaya Basin Program; and

WHEREAS, public participation in the development of the Annual Basin Plan was fostered by public meetings that were held on August 16, 2010, in Morgan City, Louisiana, on August 18, 2010, in Henderson, Louisiana, and on August 19, 2010, in Plaquemine, Louisiana, to elicit public suggestions for projects to be considered for the Annual Basin Plan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to R.S. 30:2000.11, a Technical Advisory Group has been appointed to review, evaluate, and approve all water management and water quality projects proposed for inclusion in an annual plan to determine if the project meets the criteria for inclusion in the Annual Basin Plan, and make recommendations to the Atchafalaya Basin Research and Promotion Board; and

WHEREAS, water quality projects that were suggested by the public were reviewed, evaluated, and selected projects approved for inclusion in the Annual Basin Plan at meetings held on September 9, 2010, September 27, 2010, and October 4, 2010, by the technical advisory group, as required by R.S. 30:2000.11(B); and

WHEREAS, an additional opportunity for public participation in the process of developing the Annual Basin Plan was provided through public meetings held on November 8, 2010, in Morgan City, Louisiana, on November 9, 2010, in Henderson, Louisiana, and on November 10, 2010, in Plaquemine, Louisiana, to facilitate public review and the receipt of comments on the draft Annual Basin Plan from members of the public; and

WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin Research and Promotion Board at a public meeting held on December 9, 2010, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, after receiving and considering the comments of the public, and the recommendations of the Atchafalaya Basin Program staff, unanimously approved the recommended modifications; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Basin Plan was submitted on January 26, 2010, to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) pursuant to R.S. 30:2000.11(E) for their review and approval as consistent with the Master Plan for Coastal Protection and Restoration for a Sustainable Coast and was unanimously approved by the CPRA on February 16, 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin Research and Promotion Board, as required by R.S. 30:2000.11(D) at a public meeting held on March 3, 2011, considered and unanimously approved the proposed Annual Basin Plan, as modified; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Basin Plan was submitted to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources at least thirty days prior to the start of the regular session of the legislature as required by R.S. 30:2000.11(F), and copies were also mailed to each legislator's home office; and

WHEREAS, such committees must take action on the Atchafalaya Basin Program Annual Plan, and the legislature may approve or disapprove the Annual Basin Plan by resolution adopted by a majority vote of the members of each house of the legislature; and

WHEREAS, the Atchafalaya Basin Program Annual Plan shall not be effective or implemented unless both houses of the legislature approve the annual plan or fail to disapprove the annual plan; and

WHEREAS, the secretary shall implement the Atchafalaya Basin Program Annual Plan, if the legislature approves the plan or if the legislature fails to timely disapprove of the plan.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby approve the Atchafalaya Basin Program Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2011-2012, as presented by the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and adopted by the Atchafalaya Basin Research and Promotion Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and the Atchafalaya Basin Research and Promotion Board.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE