

1 WHEREAS, social and environmental factors led to the ultimate closure of
2 Pontchartrain Beach in 1983 with the major contributors to the park's decline being poor
3 water quality, gradual erosion, and hurricanes; and

4 WHEREAS, the beach reopened in the early 1990s, but in 2012, after two people
5 drowned in six weeks the beach was closed to public access; and

6 WHEREAS, in certain areas of the lake near the beach there are blocks of concrete
7 called groins that can be slippery from algae buildups and depressions in the lake bottom
8 which is deeper near these structures because the wave action interacts with the rocks in the
9 lake; and

10 WHEREAS, the Orleans Levee District recently approved signing a lease with the
11 Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation that will allow the nonprofit to reopen the beach to the
12 public in the near future; and

13 WHEREAS, the conditions in the lake that were there when the two drowning deaths
14 occurred in 2012 still exist and as such opening the beach to the public once again will only
15 put the public at risk.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that the Orleans Levee District and
18 the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation not reopen the Pontchartrain Beach to the public.

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 152 Original

2015 Regular Session

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Urges and requests that the Orleans Levee District and the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation not reopen the Pontchartrain Beach to the public.