SLS 161ES-139

ORIGINAL

2016 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 7

BY SENATOR CHABERT

CONGRESS. Memorializes Congress to maintain the Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing arrangement passed under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To memorialize the Congress of the United States to maintain the Outer Continental Shelf
3	revenue sharing arrangement passed under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act
4	of 2006.
5	WHEREAS, the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 (GOMESA) provides
6	for the sharing of qualified Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) revenues to Gulf Coast states and
7	their political subdivisions that host energy production in order to help mitigate the demands
8	associated with that production on infrastructure and natural resources; and
9	WHEREAS, GOMESA stipulates that funds can only be used for the purposes of
10	coastal protection including conservation, restoration, hurricane protection, the mitigation
11	of damage to wildlife and natural resources, and the mitigation of effects from Outer
12	Continental Shelf activities through onshore infrastructure projects, and associated
13	administrative costs; and
14	WHEREAS, in 2006, the people of Louisiana voted overwhelmingly to
15	constitutionally dedicate the revenues received through GOMESA to the Coastal Protection
16	and Restoration Fund for the purposes of coastal wetlands conservation, coastal restoration,
17	hurricane protection, or infrastructure directly impacted by coastal wetland losses; and
18	WHEREAS, revenues received by Louisiana and its eligible coastal parishes from

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- 2009 to 2015 under phase one of GOMESA provided only \$11.5 million to the state, but
 phase two is estimated to generate more than ten times as much revenue each year for coastal
 projects; and
- WHEREAS, GOMESA revenues have long been seen as a crucial, reliable and
 recurring revenue stream to support Louisiana's coastal protection and restoration work; and
 WHEREAS, since 2007, Louisiana has created a framework for its coastal protection
 and restoration program and set the national standard for utilizing world-class science and
 engineering and public outreach to meet the challenges of a vanishing coast through its
 Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast (Coastal Master Plan); and
- WHEREAS, the 2012 Coastal Master Plan further evolved Louisiana's approach to
 coastal protection and restoration with the prioritization of projects in a resource-constrained
 funding and physical environment; and
- WHEREAS, Louisiana's land loss crisis demands a robust and integrated coastal
 protection and restoration program that operates effectively and urgently for the safety,
 livelihood, culture, and enjoyment of its people; and
- WHEREAS, the entire United States derives fantastic benefit from the natural assets of coastal Louisiana including its energy resources, the commerce and connections provided by its ports and waterways, its seafood production, and many other invaluable ecosystem services; and
- WHEREAS, Louisiana's coastline has already lost twenty-five percent of its 1932
 land area and without the implementation of large scale restoration projects it could lose an
 additional 1,750 square miles of land at the end of fifty years; and
- WHEREAS, Louisiana has a science-based plan to meet these challenges that include massive public investments in the restoration of America's largest river delta, structural protection where necessary, and an extensive program to floodproof, elevate, and voluntarily acquire homes and businesses at greatest risk of flooding; and
- WHEREAS, Louisiana aims to pioneer the engineered replication of natural processes such as the construction of sediment diversions off of the Mississippi River, and develop other expertise that can be exported around the globe to other cities, states, and countries adapting to climate change; and

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1	WHEREAS, by maintaining GOMESA, Congress can follow through on a promise
2	nearly ten years old, support Louisiana's efforts to provide for a sustainable coast, help to
3	protect and maintain nationally significant economic and natural resources, and help reduce
4	federal liabilities like insured properties in the National Flood Insurance Program and future
5	hurricane disaster payouts.
6	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana memorializes
7	the Congress of the United States to maintain the Outer Continental Shelf revenue sharing
8	arrangements established under the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 for the
9	creation of a recurring funding stream in support of Louisiana's coastal program.
10	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
11	to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of
12	Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States
13	Congress.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Alan Miller.

SCR 7 Original

DIGEST 2016 First Extraordinary Session

Chabert

Memorializes Congress to maintain the revenue sharing arrangements established under GOMESA 2006 for the creation of a recurring funding stream in support of Louisiana's coastal program.