

Appendix A

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 60

BY SENATOR DUPRE AND REPRESENTATIVE DOVE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to conduct a science-based study of the adequacy of the current inland boundary of the coastal zone of Louisiana to meet the state's current and future needs to manage, protect and restore its coastal resources.

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana has had a federally approved Coastal Zone Management Program since October 1980, which has been instrumental in improving stewardship and protecting the state's coastal wetlands and resources in addition to increasing public awareness of the importance of coastal wetlands to the economy of the state and to the well-being of coastal residents; and

WHEREAS, the coastal zone of Louisiana supports numerous natural and economic resources critical to the national economy, including energy and maritime infrastructure and resources, and commercial and recreational fisheries; and

WHEREAS, the coastal zone is home to a high percentage of the state's population and generates over fifty percent of the state's annual revenues; and

WHEREAS, the inland boundary of the coastal zone of Louisiana is defined in R.S. 49:213.24; and

WHEREAS, since the establishment of the inland boundary of the coastal zone nearly thirty years ago, there have been significant events and changes, including degradation and deterioration of the state's coast, devastating impacts from numerous hurricanes, the adoption of Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast, increasing awareness, and availability of data concerning climatic changes and sea-level rise, improved understanding of storm patterns, establishment of other coastal programs and boundaries, such as the Louisiana coastal area and the conservation boundary, and an unprecedented level of funding being applied to integrated coastal protection and restoration projects; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the Legislature of Louisiana to reevaluate the adequacy of the state's inland boundary of the coastal zone and consider a possible revision of that boundary to better serve the current and future needs of our state; and

WHEREAS, coastal zone management is necessary and important to protect the coastal wetlands and resources within the coastal zone, and the cost of protecting such coastal wetlands and resources through coastal zone management is significantly less than the cost to conserve, restore or enhance such coastal wetlands and resources once they are devastated or lost.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority to conduct a science-based study of the adequacy of the inland boundary of the coastal zone of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study should provide information and recommendations as to the current inland boundary's adequacy to meet the coastal zone management needs of the state and its residents through upcoming decades.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study should:

- (1) Be science-based and rely on the latest available data and technology.
- (2) Consider the existing legal framework at the state and national level and the presence of other legally established lines of demarcation for other programs in Louisiana related to coastal issues.
- (3) Consider physical, biological, and chemical and other scientific information such as salinity, tidal influence, storm surge, presence and type of wetlands, elevation of land, habitat value to fish and wildlife resources, subsidence and sea level rise, potential for flooding, and any other relevant data.
- (4) Take into account the value and importance of economic activity, including energy infrastructure, maritime transport, commercial and recreational fishing and hunting, agricultural and forestry interests, eco-tourism, and any other economic development activities important to the state.
- (5) Acknowledge and consider the value of archeological and cultural resources to coastal Louisiana.
- (6) Include recommendations to the Legislature, including maps, of any

suggested changes to laws, rules, and policies concerning the inland boundary of the coastal zone of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority shall submit the study to the Legislature of Louisiana on or before March 1, 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the director of the Governor's Office of Coastal Activities.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES