

Lafayette Mtg 2-22-11
Congress

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AN EXTRACT OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL OF IBERIA PARISH,
LOUISIANA, TAKEN AT A REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 9, 2011.

A motion was made by Mr. Bernard E. Broussard, seconded by Mr.
Thomas J. Landry, that the following be adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-34

A RESOLUTION URGING THE LA. STATE LEGISLATURE AND
GOVERNOR BOBBY JINDAL TO CREATE A COASTAL CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT DURING THE REDISTRICTING PLAN FOR LOUISIANA.

WHEREAS, the Great State of Louisiana's commercial fisheries
account for one third of commercial fishing in the United States.
The state's catch regularly exceeds one billion pounds and \$300
million in dockside value; and

WHEREAS, sport-fishing provides \$700 million to \$1.2 billion
to the Great State of Louisiana's economy, the vast majority of
this revenue coming from Coastal Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, alligator harvesting and coastal trapping generates
\$30 million and \$2 million, respectively, in annual economic
activity; and

WHEREAS, almost 25 percent of the oil and gas consumed in the
United States and 80 percent of the oil and gas recovered from our
nation's offshore reserves travels through Coastal Louisiana before
it is used to power our nation's economy; and

WHEREAS, the oil and gas industry directly or indirectly
employs 320,000 or one in three Louisianans and supplies these
families with \$12.7 billion in annual household income, which
amount represents more than 15 percent of this Great State's total
household income and with the vast majority of these jobs, and
virtually all of the 58,000 Louisianans that work extraction,

pipeline and refining jobs being residents of Coastal Louisiana;
and

WHEREAS, many of the offshore drilling platforms in the Gulf of Mexico are serviced through Coastal Louisiana's Port of Fouchon, which use of Port Fouchon has made it the largest port by tonnage in the Western Hemisphere; and

WHEREAS, the Great State of Louisiana ranks first in the nation in total shipping tonnage, with almost all of this cargo being loaded on ocean-going ships or transferred from barges to ships in a Coastal Louisiana port and with the remaining cargo being transported through Coastal Louisiana along the Mississippi river or Gulf Intracoastal Waterway; and

WHEREAS, the Great State of Louisiana also ranks first in the nation in maritime employment, with 61,956 jobs in the maritime industry, with more than half of individuals holding these jobs residing in Coastal Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, coastal Louisiana contains 40 percent of the coastal wetlands found in the continental United States, which provide habitat for more than 5 million migratory waterfowl and many threatened or endangered species; and

WHEREAS, wildlife harvesting and watching in these wetlands provides \$1.2 billion in retail sales and sales taxes and provides jobs to more than 16,000 Louisianans; and

WHEREAS, coastal Louisiana's wetlands are disappearing at an alarming rate of 1,500 square miles in the last 50 years and 40 square miles per year, every year for the last few decades; and

WHEREAS, if the factors causing this erosion are not rectified, Coastal Louisiana stands to lose an additional 1,000 square miles, which is an area the size of the State of Rhode Island; and

WHEREAS, continued erosion of our wetlands will subject two million Louisianans to more damaging and deadly floods and hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, coastal Louisiana continues to feel the affects of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and the 2010 BP oil spill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Iberia Parish Council does hereby urge the Louisiana State Legislature and Governor Bobby Jindal to create a Coastal Congressional District so that Coastal Louisiana can be represented by once voice in Congress whose priority is our coast and the commonalities that bond our communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Iberia Parish Council does hereby go on record in support of the creation of a Coastal Congressional District to include all coastal parishes from the Louisiana/Texas border through St. Bernard Parish, with said proposed District to exclude all or portions of Calcasieu Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Iberia Parish Council does support this Resolution because:

1. Over the course of centuries, the close net population of Coastal Louisiana has developed unique traditions and industries from this distinct environment;
2. Through the hard work and sacrifice of local residents, these industries have become vital to the economic future of the Great State of Louisiana and the entire United States;
3. Coastal Louisiana is susceptible to and endangered by natural disasters, manmade accidents and coastal erosion; and
4. The people of Coastal Louisiana remain resilient through these challenges.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Iberia Parish Council and approval by the Parish President in accordance with Section 2-13 of the Iberia Parish Home Rule Charter.

This Resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: Maggie F. Daniels, Curtis Boudoin, Thomas J. Landry, Lloyd Brown, Troy Comeaux, Bernard E. Broussard, John Berard, Glenn Romero, Roger Duncan, Jerome Fitch, Charles Williams and M. Larry Richard.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Barry Verret and Naray Hulin.

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And the Resolution was declared adopted this 9th day of February, 2011.

ATTEST: A true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Parish Council of Iberia Parish, Louisiana, taken at a Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, February 9, 2011.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the Parish Council of Iberia Parish, Louisiana, on this 15th day of February 2011.



Clerk of the Council, Parish Council of
Iberia Parish, Louisiana.