Lake Charles Mtg 2-22-11
Congress

City of Lake Charles

Certified Copy

Resolution: 1-11

326 Pujo Street
P.O. Box 1178
Lake Charles, LA
70602-1178

File Number: 849-10 **Enactment Number: 1-11**

A resolution expressing support for the concept of Lake Charles staying a part of a congressional district tied with Lafayette and the coastal parishes due to reapportionment of congressional representative districts.

WHEREAS, the State Legislature will be going into special session between March 3, 2011 to April 4,2011 and will be dealing with reapportionment issues involving legislative state and federal legislative districts among other related matters and it has been determined that the State of Louisiana will lose one of its seven congressional districts;

WHEREAS, the City of Lake Charles is currently a part of the 7th Congressional District which is composed of the City of Lafayette and the areas of south central and Southwest Louisiana including the all of the parishes of Calcasieu, Allen, Jefferson Davis, Acadia, St. Landry and the coastal parishes of Cameron and Vermilion;

WHEREAS, as currently configured the component geographic areas of the 7th Congressional District are contiguous and compact and residents thereof have historically shared a strong community of interest in terms of socioeconomics in many vital areas including but not limited to education, oil and gas production and exploration and support services related thereto (both onshore and offshore), farming, petrochemical processing and production, ports and waterways, the Intracoastal Waterway, as well as strong familial and cultural connections which are reflected in the local customs related to food, music, sports and shared support for regional social activities;

WHEREAS, as a result of the proximity of the geographic areas to the Gulf Coast region of the state the citizens and residents of the current geographic areas of the 7th Congressional District also share interests in terms of hurricane protection and emergency preparedness and have historically worked to meet the challenges related to maintaining and protecting the coastal wetland areas of our state;

WHEREAS, the economies and residents of all areas of the current 7th Congressional District are also interconnected and interdependent with each other as a result of their shared relationship via the movement of goods, commerce and people along the I-10/I-12 Corridor and the interrelated state and federal highway system connected thereto;

WHEREAS, the major metropolitan areas of Lafayette and Lake Charles have historically been included together as part of the same congressional district and jointly serve to anchor and provide support for much of the socioeconomic activity in the region;

WHEREAS, to configure a new congressional district which separates the major metropolitan areas of Lake Charles and Lafayette and surrounding communities would be contrary to the established legal principles which govern the reapportionment of federal legislative districts including but not limited to: compactness, contiguity, community of interest, preservation of the historic connection between political subdivisions and could make it difficult for any person elected to represent the varied socioeconomic interests of the region in the U. S. Congress;

region of Central and Southwest Louisiana and make sure that any new congressional district created for the region include the cities of Lake Charles and Lafayette as part of the same district along with the coastal areas of the state including Cameron and Vermilion Parishes.

SECTION 3: The Clerk of the City Council is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of the resolution to State Representative Mike Danahay, Congressman Charles Boustany, the Honorable Rick Gallot, Chairman, House and Governmental Affairs and the Honorable Robert Kostelka, Senate and Governmental Affairs.

I, Lynn F. Thibodeaux, certify that this is a true copy of Resolution No. 1-11, passed by the City Council on 1/5/2011.

Lynn F. Thibodeaux

Lynn F. Thibodeaux, Clerk of the Council

1-10-11

Date Certified