

Lafayette mtg 2-22-11
Congress



RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT THAT INCLUDES BOTH THE CITY OF LAFAYETTE AND THE CITY OF LAKE CHARLES

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WHEREAS, the state legislature is called into special session between March 20, 2011 and April 13, 2011 to consider congressional reapportionment and state legislative redistricting among other related matters, and it has been determined that the state of Louisiana will lose one of its seven congressional districts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lafayette is currently a component of the 7th Congressional District, which is composed of the City of Lake Charles, and the areas of south central and southwest Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, as currently configured the component geographic areas of the 7th Congressional District are contiguous and compact, and residents thereof have historically shared strong socio-economic interests including but not limited to oil and gas onshore and offshore exploration and production, ports, agriculture, and cultural attributes that lead to food, music sports and regional social activity; and

WHEREAS, the economies of these areas of the current 7th Congressional District are interconnected and interdependent with one another as a result of their shared relationship via the movement of goods, services, and people along the I-10/I-12 Corridor and state highways as well as the Intracoastal Waterway system; and

WHEREAS, the major metropolitan areas of Lafayette and Lake Charles have historically bonded together in terms of hurricane protection and evacuation matters relative to emergency preparedness; and

WHEREAS, the established principles which govern reapportionment of federal congressional districts include compactness, contiguity, commonality of interest, preservation of historical connection among political subdivisions, and meaningful representation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of Directors of the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce at a special called meeting on February 18, 2011, does hereby declare that in the redrawing of congressional districts the Louisiana Legislature give preference and priority to maintaining the established socio-economic relationships and ensure that Lafayette and Lake Charles remain united in the same district; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chamber leadership communicates its position to Louisiana Congressman Charles Boustany; state Representatives Nancy Landry and Taylor Barras, as members of the House and Governmental Affairs Committee; along with its Chairman Rick Gallot, and Robert Kostelka, Chairman of the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee.

Flo Meadows, Chairman of the Board

Rob Guidry, President/CEO