

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 99

BY SENATORS ALLAIN, CHABERT, GATTI, LAMBERT AND LUNEAU AND
REPRESENTATIVE THIBAUT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To create and provide for a Public Recreation Access Task Force to study the conditions, needs, and issues relative to potential public recreation access on the navigable waters of the state.

WHEREAS, Louisiana, and particularly its coastline, is home to some of the most sought-after hunting, fishing, and nature-viewing opportunities in the world; and

WHEREAS, in many cases along the state's coastline, there are no roads or highways allowing the public to access and enjoy these activities; therefore, the public must rely on waterways for access; and

WHEREAS, the coastal regions are subject to both public and private ownership, and due to the constantly changing nature of the coastline, many boundaries delineating the ownership of state and private properties have either disappeared or have become indistinguishable, particularly where property has become submerged; and

WHEREAS, in many cases, the state land office has classified the submerged lands as claimed by the state and the adjoining landowner, causing additional confusion for those persons attempting to hunt, fish, or partake in other outdoor recreational activities, or for those who are simply attempting to traverse a body of water to an area clearly open to the public; and

WHEREAS, a broad-based task force is needed to make concrete policy recommendations to the legislature in order to address the issue of public access on the navigable waters of the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create the Public Recreation Access Task Force to study the conditions, needs, and issues relative to potential public recreation access on the navigable waters of the state and to make

recommendations to the legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force created shall consist of the following members:

- (1) Three members appointed by the Louisiana Sportsmen's Coalition.
- (2) One member appointed by the Coastal Conservation Association of Louisiana.
- (3) Three sportsman at large appointed by the governor, one of whom is an angler, one of whom is a water fowler, and one of whom is a deer hunter.
- (4) One member appointed by the Louisiana Landowners Association.
- (5) One member who is a landowner or lessee east of the Atchafalaya River, appointed by the governor from a list of three names submitted by the Louisiana Landowners Association.
- (6) One member who is a landowner or lessee west of the Atchafalaya River, appointed by the governor from a list of three names submitted by the Louisiana Landowners Association.
- (7) One member to be appointed jointly by the Louisiana Oil and Gas Association and the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association.
- (8) One member appointed by Louisiana Sea Grant Program.
- (9) One member appointed by the Louisiana State Law Institute.
- (10) Two members of the Senate appointed by the president.
- (11) Two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker.
- (12) The secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or his designee.
- (13) The secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries or his designee.
- (14) One member representing environmental interests of the state appointed with the concurrence of the Nature Conservancy and the Louisiana Audubon Society.
- (15) The attorney general or his designee.
- (16) The register of the state land office or his designee.
- (17) The governor's executive assistant for coastal activities or his designee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall elect a chair at its first meeting, and shall follow applicable rules for committee procedure found in the Louisiana Senate Rules of Order.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall, by majority vote, have presented to them any information that it deems necessary for its deliberations from any state agency or the Louisiana State Law Institute. The task force may also request from any other source any information that it may need including but not limited to studies, data, reports, or any other information that is germane to its discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall make recommendations to the legislature no later than February 1, 2020, at which time the task force shall cease to exist, although the task force may disband at an earlier date following a two-thirds vote of the membership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, beginning in September 2018, the task force shall meet at least once every other month until February 1, 2020, but may meet more often if the chair or a majority of the membership deem it necessary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the governor.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES