

1 WHEREAS, Louisiana has thousands of commercially licensed freshwater
2 fishermen; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2019 freshwater fisheries harvest, including wild caught crawfish,
4 accounted for a dockside value of nearly twenty million dollars, illustrating how vital
5 freshwater fisheries are to the people and the economy of Louisiana; and

6 WHEREAS, the full scale of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on
7 freshwater fisheries has not yet been determined; however, these fisheries have been directly
8 impacted; and

9 WHEREAS, the impacts to freshwater fisheries and other Louisiana fisheries
10 participants result in individuals who would benefit greatly from a direct payment program;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is charged with
13 developing programs to expend these funds; and

14 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana supports the development of direct
15 payment programs to industry participants.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
17 memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana congressional delegation to take
18 such actions as are necessary to clarify and provide guidance regarding the ability of
19 freshwater fishermen or fishery-related businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to
20 receive assistance funding from CARES Act dollars.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
22 presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the
23 United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Memorializes the U.S. Congress and the La. congressional delegation to take such actions as are necessary to clarify and provide guidance on the ability of freshwater fisheries or fishery-related businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to receive assistance funding from CARES Act dollars.