

Regular Session, 2011

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 207

BY REPRESENTATIVES SAM JONES, BALDONE, DOVE, HARRISON, AND ST.  
GERMAIN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct a permanent flood control structure on Bayou Chene.

WHEREAS, this spring's heavy rains in the mid and lower Mississippi River valley and snow melt farther upstream lead to extraordinary flooding on the nation's largest river; and

WHEREAS, the rising of the water level on the Mississippi River and the subsequent stress placed upon the levee systems required that the United States Army Corps of Engineers open the floodgates on the Morganza Spillway to alleviate levee overtopping; and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2011, the St. Mary Levee District, St. Mary Parish Government, Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government, Terrebonne Levee and Conservation District, Morgan City, and the town of Berwick requested an emergency permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers for a project to close Bayou Chene, which was granted within twenty-four hours; and

WHEREAS, the project entailed the installation of sheet-piling, submerging a barge behind the sheet-piling to provide fortification and placing rock along the waterway's banks; and

WHEREAS, the flood waters would contact the sheet-piling, lowering its access and velocity, and empty into the area marshes where the waters would drop sediment and nutrients; and

WHEREAS, the project was successful and massive flooding in St. Mary, St. Martin, Terrebonne, Assumption, Iberville, West Baton Rouge and Pointe Coupee parishes was averted; and

WHEREAS, a permanent structure placed to accomplish the task of the hastily constructed barge structure would be a great benefit in future flood events and allow flood fighting assets to be utilized elsewhere.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the United States Army Corps of Engineers to construct a permanent flood control structure on Bayou Chene.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi Valley Division.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE