

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 210

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOYD

A RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to support the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, including Congressman Troy Carter's amendment to review recreational hazards along the banks of the Mississippi River, in order to protect lives by alerting the public to dangerous conditions on the river and riverbank.

WHEREAS, three children tragically lost their lives in Algiers on April 23, 2022; and

WHEREAS, 8-year-old Ally Wilson, 14-year-old Brandy Wilson, and 15-year-old Kevin Poole went missing while playing on the bank of the Mississippi River near the Crescent City Connection and are believed to have been taken by the strong current of the river; and

WHEREAS, this devastating tragedy has called attention to the dangers posed by open access to the banks of the Mississippi River and the lack of safety measures and warning signs cautioning the public against hazards along the riverbank and dangerous river conditions; and

WHEREAS, the New Orleans City Council unanimously passed a resolution directing several government agencies to take all necessary steps to install warning signs in the area where these children accessed the river; and

WHEREAS, Congress is currently considering the Water Resources and Development Act of 2022 (WRDA), a bill passed by every session of Congress that authorizes and funds the activities of the United States Army Corps of Engineers relative to flood control, navigation, and ecosystem restoration; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi River levee system is under the jurisdiction of the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the banks of the Mississippi River can be regulated through legislation under WRDA; and

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2022, Congressman Troy Carter of Louisiana was able to add an amendment to the United States House of Representatives version of WRDA, introduced as H.R. 7776 of the 117th Congress, which would require the United States Army Corps of Engineers to review potential threats to human life and safety from recreational areas at the banks of the Mississippi River in Louisiana and to install signage and other measures at such recreational areas necessary to alert the public of hazardous water conditions or to otherwise minimize or eliminate any identified threats to human life and safety; and

WHEREAS, these efforts by the City of New Orleans and Congressman Troy Carter have the potential to save lives and prevent the type of tragic loss experienced by the Wilson and Poole families, and the Algiers community, this spring.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to support the Water Resources Development Act of 2022, including Congressman Troy Carter's amendment to review recreational hazards along the banks of the Mississippi River, in order to protect lives by alerting the public to dangerous conditions on the river and riverbank.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES