SLS 12RS-5148 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2012

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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 138

BY SENATOR GALLOT AND REPRESENTATIVE DIXON

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. Requests the Red River Waterway Commission and the Department of Economic Development to make a report on economic development opportunities and strategies for the Red River area between Alexandria and Pineville.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Red River Waterway Commission and the Louisiana Department of Economic Development to prepare and provide to the House Committee on 3 Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and 4 5 International Affairs, a report on economic development opportunities and strategies for the Red River area between the cities of Alexandria and Pineville. 6 7 WHEREAS, the Red River Waterway District is a statutorily created body for the 8 purpose of establishing, operating, and maintaining, individually or with the assistance of 9 certain enumerated bodies, a navigable waterway system known as the Red River Waterway; 10 and 11 WHEREAS, the Red River Waterway District is composed of portions of the parishes of Avoyelles, Rapides, Natchitoches, Red River, Grant, Bossier, and Caddo; and 12 13 WHEREAS, the Red River Waterway Commission, herein referred to as "commission", was created to govern the Red River Waterway District; and 14 WHEREAS, the commission is responsible for participating in economic 15 16 development for the waterway area and for providing and maintaining navigable channels between the ports and the river channel; and 17 WHEREAS, it is the policy of the state of Louisiana, in furtherance of its 18

1	responsibility to protect the health, public safety, welfare, and future prosperity of the
2	citizens of the state, to fully develop the human, economic, and natural resources of the state
3	through a well-informed and business-oriented Department of Economic Development; and
4	WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Economic Development which utilizes
5	various incentives and programs to encourage businesses to expand or relocate to Louisiana,
6	including the Mega-Project Development Fund, various tax credits and exemptions, tax
7	abatements, and workforce recruitment, may very well be interested in exploring the use of
8	the areas along the Red River as yet another incentive to encourage economic development
9	in this state; and
10	WHEREAS, the Red River area between the cities of Alexandria and Pineville has
11	not been developed to its full potential and the undeveloped and under-used space is a
12	missed opportunity to generate income, encourage economic development, and provide
13	additional resources to both public and private entities within the communities; and
14	WHEREAS, economic development is vital to the seven parishes within the Red
15	River Waterway District; and
16	WHEREAS, recreation and economic development projects and state operation and
17	maintenance, current and future funding priorities and available funds, and strategic plans
18	are all critical components necessary to ensure economic development for those parishes and
19	the Red River Waterway District.
20	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Legislature urges and requests
21	the Red River Waterway Commission and the Louisiana Department of Economic
22	Development to prepare and provide to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate
23	Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs, a report on
24	economic development opportunities and strategies for the Red River area between the cities
25	of Alexandria and Pineville no later than February 1, 2013.
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

 $Red\,River\,Waterway\,Commission\,and\,the\,Louisiana\,Department\,of\,Economic\,Development.$

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST

Gallot SCR No.

Requests the Red River Waterway Commission and the Dept. of Economic Development to prepare and provide to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs, a report on economic development opportunities and strategies for the Red River area between the cities of Alexandria and Pineville no later than Feb. 1, 2013.