A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT TO CLARIFY THAT GOMESA FUNDS SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENCE PURPOSES FOR HURRICANE AND FLOOD CONTROL PROJECTS

RESOLUTION 17-05

WHEREAS, the SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT, hereinafter referred to as the "LEVEE DISTRICT", was created by the Louisiana Legislature to act as an official flood protection commission of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA); and

WHEREAS, membership of the LEVEE DISTRICT consists of the President, Executive Director, or CEO of every Levee District and Flood Authority in coastal Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the Louisiana Legislature enacted several major reforms to improve the planning and implementation of coastal protection and restoration projects, including the creation of the CPRA; and

WHEREAS, another major reform undertaken after Hurricane Katrina was amending the Louisiana State Constitution to dedicate all future outer continental shelf oil and gas revenues to coastal restoration, coastal protection, and infrastructure needs directly associated with coastal wetland losses; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislature passed a Joint Resolution (Constitutional Amendment) for this dedication under Act 69 of the First Extraordinary Session of 2005 which was authored by Senator Reggie Dupre; and

WHEREAS, this Joint Resolution received a unanimous vote of the Legislature and was ultimately approved by the citizens of Louisiana by an 82% vote at a statewide election in September 2006; and

WHEREAS, later in 2006, the U.S. Congress passed the Gulf of Mexico Energy and Security Act (GOMESA) which allowed for revenue sharing to Gulf states from new oil and gas leases in Federal waters; and

WHEREAS, GOMESA will provide a stable and recurring source of revenue for Louisiana to provide protection and restore the coast; and

WHEREAS, Federal and State funds and grants for these purposes have historically been reserved for capital construction costs with the local political subdivisions being responsible for the operational and maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of this LEVEE DISTRICT that the intention of the dedication of outer continental shelf oil and gas revenues (GOMESA) was strictly limited to expenditures for the capital costs of the restoration, protection or infrastructure projects.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT hereby recommends to the Governor and Chairman of CPRA that GOMESA funds should be strictly limited to the capital costs of the dedicated purposes as approved by the voters of Louisiana in 2006.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution will be submitted to Governor J. B. Edwards, CPRA Chairman Johnny Bradberry, the members of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, the Secretary of the Louisiana State Senate, and the Clerk of the Louisiana House of Representatives.

THUS, DONE AND PASSED on the 13th day of November, 2017.

I, Ronald Callais, President of the SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by the SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT at a regular meeting held on November 13, 2017.

GIVEN UNDER MY OFFICIAL SIGNATURE THIS 13th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2017.

Ronald Callais, President

SOUTH LAFOURCHE LEVEE DISTRICT