

RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THAT MISSISSIPPI'S SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN INTRODUCE AND LEAD TO PASSAGE A NEW FEDERAL LAW TO BE KNOWN AS THE "MISSISSIPPI SOUND AND LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN PROTECTION ACT OF 2020"; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES

Whereas, the Mission of the Mississippi Sound Coalition (composed of a majority of county and municipal governments in Mississippi's coastal counties) is to restore and protect the ecosystem of the Mississippi Sound and the way of life and economies of coastal communities that depend on it, based on good science and fair public policy; and

Whereas, the Mississippi Sound Coalition finds that the proposed federal statute, the "Mississippi Sound and Lake Pontchartrain Protection Act of 2020", attached to this Resolution and made a part hereof, would provide essential legal authority for Mississippi state and local governments and the general public to participate meaningfully in federal, state and local public policy decisions affecting the ecosystems of the Mississippi Sound and the way of life and economies of coastal communities that depend on it, based on good science and fair public policy, and further would serve the local, state and national interest in restoring and protecting the Mississippi Sound Estuary and Lake Pontchartrain;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION, THAT:

SECTION ONE. The findings, conclusions, and statements of fact contained in the foregoing preamble are hereby adopted, ratified, and incorporated herein.

SECTION TWO. On behalf of the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the whole State of Mississippi, the Mississippi Sound Coalition respectfully requests that Senators Roger Wicker and Cindy Hyde-Smith, and Congressmen Steven Palazzo, Bennie Thompson, Michael Guest and Trent Kelly, introduce and lead to passage the Mississippi Sound and Lake Pontchartrain Protection Act of 2020 in Congress in substantially similar substance as the proposed Act attached as Exhibit "A" to this resolution.

SECTION THREE. The Members of the Coalition and their attorneys hereby offer to provide any additional information the Mississippi Congressional Delegation and their staffs may need to assist in introduction and adoption of this Act that is so vital to the health, safety and welfare of the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, as well as all Mississippians and Americans.

SECTION FOUR. The Chairman and Manager of the Coalition are authorized to send a copy of this Resolution to each member of Mississippi's Congressional Delegation and to Mississippi's Governor, Lt. Gov., Speaker of the House, Attorney General and Secretary of State.

**RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION
RECOMMENDING ADOPTION OF S.B. 2346 (FISHERY FUNDD ACT); H.B.
5548 (FISHERY FUNND ACT), AND S. B. 2209 (COMMERICAL FISHING
AND AQUACULTURE PROTECTION ACT OF 2019); AND FOR RELATED
PURPOSES**

Whereas, the Mission of the Mississippi Sound Coalition (composed of a majority of county and municipal governments in Mississippi's coastal counties) is to restore and protect the ecosystem of the Mississippi Sound and the way of life and economies of coastal communities that depend on it, based on good science and fair public policy; and

Whereas, the Mississippi Sound Coalition finds that adoption of Senate Bill 2346 (Fishery Fundd Act) sponsored by Sen. Roger Wicker, House Bill 5548 (Fishery Fundd Act) sponsored by Rep. Steven Palazzo, and Senate Bill 2209 sponsored by Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith, now being considered by the U.S Congress, would vastly improve federal fisheries disaster laws and would serve the local, state and national public interests in sustaining our commercial fishery industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION, THAT:

SECTION ONE. The findings, conclusions, and statements of fact contained in the foregoing preamble are hereby adopted, ratified, and incorporated herein.

SECTION TWO. On behalf of the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the whole State of Mississippi, the Mississippi Sound Coalition recommend adoption of the above-referenced bills and applaud the efforts of Senators Wicker and Hyde-Smith and Rep. Palazzo in sponsoring these much-needed reforms of federal fishery disaster laws.

SECTION FOUR. The Chairman and Manager of the Coalition are authorized to send a copy of this Resolution to each member of Mississippi's Congressional Delegation and to Mississippi's Governor, Lt. Gov., Speaker of the House, Attorney General and Secretary of State.

RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION ENDORSING THE EFFORTS OF THE MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES TO CONDUCT APPROPRIATE SCIENTIFIC AND ENGINEERING STUDIES, PLANNING AND COST ESTIMATES TO ESTABLISH A LOWER PEARL RIVER FRESHWATER PROJECT TO RESTORE THE NATURAL FLOW OF FRESH WATER FROM THE PEARL RIVER TO THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES

Whereas, the Mission of the Mississippi Sound Coalition (composed of county and municipal governments in Mississippi's coastal counties) is to restore and protect the ecosystem of the Mississippi Sound and the way of life and economies of coastal communities that depend on it, based on good science and fair public policy; and

Whereas, the Mississippi Sound Coalition finds that it would be in the interest of restoring and protecting the significant natural resources of the Mississippi Sound and the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the people of the Mississippi coastal counties and all Mississippians for the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources and the Department of Marine Resources to conduct appropriate scientific and engineering studies, planning and cost estimates to establish a lower Pearl River Freshwater Project to restore the natural flow of fresh water from the Pearl River to the Mississippi Sound; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION, THAT:

SECTION ONE. The findings, conclusions, and statements of fact contained in the foregoing preamble are hereby adopted, ratified, and incorporated herein.

SECTION TWO. On behalf of the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the whole State of Mississippi, the Mississippi Sound Coalition respectfully requests that the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources conduct appropriate scientific and engineering studies, planning and cost estimates to establish a lower Pearl River Freshwater Project to restore the natural flow of fresh water from the Pearl River to the Mississippi Sound.

SECTION THREE. The Chairman and Manager of the Coalition are authorized to deliver a copy of this Resolution to the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources and the Executive Director of the Department of Marine Resources.

RESOLUTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION REQUESTING THAT THE MISSISSIPPI COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES DESIGNATE THE WESTERN MISSISSIPPI SOUND AS A SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI COASTAL PROGRAM AND THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES

Whereas, the Mission of the Mississippi Sound Coalition (composed of county and municipal governments in Mississippi's coastal counties) is to restore and protect the ecosystem of the Mississippi Sound and the way of life and economies of coastal communities that depend on it, based on good science and fair public policy; and

Whereas, the Mississippi Sound Coalition finds that it would be in the interest of restoring and protecting the significant natural resources of the Mississippi Sound and the best interests of the health, safety and welfare of the people of the Mississippi coastal counties and all Mississippians for the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources and the Department of Marine Resources to formulate a Special Management Area Plan for the Western Mississippi Sound and designate the Western Mississippi Sound as a Special Management Area pursuant to the Mississippi Coastal Program, Miss. Code Ann. § 57-15-6 and the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C., §§1451-1464; and

Whereas, the Coalition recommends that the primary goal of the Special Management Area of the Western Mississippi sound be to restore the ecosystem and significant natural resources of the Western Mississippi Sound to historic and sustainable levels of health and productivity; and

Whereas, the Western Mississippi Sound is all of that area of the Mississippi Sound from the eastern tip of Deer Island westward to the Mississippi border with Louisiana;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE MISSISSIPPI SOUND COALITION, THAT:

SECTION ONE. The findings, conclusions, and statements of fact contained in the foregoing preamble are hereby adopted, ratified, and incorporated herein.

SECTION TWO. On behalf of the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the whole State of Mississippi, the Mississippi Sound Coalition respectfully requests that the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources formulate a Special Management Area Plan for the Western Mississippi Sound and designate the Western Mississippi Sound as a Special Management Area pursuant to the Mississippi Coastal Program, Miss. Code Ann. § 57-15-6 and the Coastal Zone Management Act, 16 U.S.C., §§1451-1464.

SECTION THREE. The Chairman and Manager of the Coalition are authorized to deliver a copy of this Resolution to the Mississippi Commission on Marine Resources and the Executive Director of the Department of Marine Resources.