

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 251

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROSSETT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to support the "Southeast Hurricanes Small Business Disaster Relief Act of 2010".

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana believes the economic downturn has frustrated many attempts by small businesses in the state of Louisiana to recover from the back-to-back disasters they have experienced in recent years; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana believes that the recent Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill now threatens the continued recovery and economic vitality of businesses in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Small Business Administration (SBA), as of May 13, 2010, there were seven thousand five hundred and seventy-five SBA Disaster Business Loans granted to small businesses in the state of Louisiana in the wake of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 and Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana is committed to assisting all small businesses in the state of Louisiana which are in need of immediate assistance to weather this difficult economic time; and

WHEREAS, the United States Chamber of Commerce, Greater New Orleans, Incorporated, the Louisiana Small Business Development Center, Greater New Orleans Region, and the New York Times have all endorsed a proposal in the United States Senate which would allow the SBA Administrator to provide relief of up to fifteen thousand dollars on interest payments for SBA Disaster Business Loans made following the 2005 and 2008 Gulf Coast hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, the United States Congress is currently considering, H.R. 4899, the Fiscal Year 2010 Emergency Supplemental, which contains five billion one hundred million

dollars for the Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Recovery Fund and additional funding to cover recent disasters, including the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana strongly believes that the United States Congress should ensure that the Fiscal Year 2010 Emergency Supplemental also includes relief to businesses in the state of Louisiana that currently have SBA Disaster Business Loans from the 2005 and 2008 hurricanes; and

WHEREAS, the "Southeast Hurricanes Small Business Disaster Relief Act of 2010" would authorize the United States Small Business Administration to waive up to fifteen thousand dollars of interest on 2005 and 2008 small business disaster loans from Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to support the "Southeast Hurricanes Small Business Disaster Relief Act of 2010".

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE