

1 WHEREAS, these 404 permits are required for such activities as road construction,
2 expansion, modification, and improvements, including culvert placement and expansion and
3 necessary bridges; and

4 WHEREAS, there is frequently valuable time lost on infrastructure construction
5 projects due to the extensive period usually required by the Corps of Engineers to review and
6 evaluate a permit application resulting in difficulties for the state and local governments to
7 respond to the needs of their citizens by improved infrastructure; and

8 WHEREAS, although the Corps of Engineers has instituted nationwide permits for
9 minor activities and regional permits for certain activities, the time required for issuance of
10 wetlands permits remains extensive and almost putative, resulting in delays for infrastructure
11 projects throughout the state; and

12 WHEREAS, over the thirty plus years since the Clean Water Act was enacted, the
13 Corps of Engineers should have had enough experience with the variety of issues involved
14 in permit applications to be able to streamline the review process and time line in order to
15 enable a state or local highway construction project to proceed in a timely manner.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
17 memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to encourage
18 and enable the United States Army Corps of Engineers to expedite their wetlands permitting
19 process.

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

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Schexnayder

HCR No. 42

Memorializes the U.S. Congress to take such actions as are necessary to encourage and enable the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to expedite their wetlands permitting process.