

1 WHEREAS, projects such as the Darlington Reservoir would have protected
2 downstream communities like Watson, Central, and Denham Springs from the massive
3 amounts of floodwater that it received during the 2016 flood of the region; and

4 WHEREAS, a recent report from the director of Dams, Levees, and Reservoir
5 Development for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development shows that
6 the Darlington Reservoir could have saved thousand of homes from flooding in 2016; and

7 WHEREAS, certain members of management with the United States Army Corps
8 of Engineers are investigating the Darlington Reservoir as a possible flood prevention
9 option; and

10 WHEREAS, a model run by Dewberry and Associates, using data from the newly
11 completed Amite Watershed Numerical Model and applying 2016 storm data, revealed that
12 the Darlington Reservoir project could have saved 20,500 homes and resulted in \$2.2 billion
13 dollars saved from flood damage; and

14 WHEREAS, the study found that water levels as a result of the August 2016 flood
15 would have been seven feet lower in the Watson area, six feet lower in the Denham Springs
16 area, and between one and a half and seven feet lower in the Central area; and

17 WHEREAS, a project such as the Darlington Reservoir could have saved an untold
18 number of lives and property from the vicious floodwaters that ravaged the Baton Rouge
19 region and surrounding areas during the August flood of 2016.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
21 urge and request the division of administration, office of community development to
22 consider funding the Darlington Reservoir to assist with the flood prevention efforts in the
23 Baton Rouge region.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
25 executive director of the division of administration, office of community development.

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)]

HCR 91 Original

2019 Regular Session

Hodges

Urges and requests the division of administration, office of community development to consider funding the Darlington Reservoir to assist with the flood prevention efforts in the Baton Rouge region.