SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 114

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to examine the possibilities of entering into recreational fishing and hunting license reciprocity agreements with Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas and to submit the findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources no later than January 1, 2013.

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana is known as a top destination for sportsman because of its abundance of wildlife and its rich hunting and fishing heritage; and

WHEREAS, people have come to the state from all over the world for the opportunity to roam our forests in search of game and to travel our waters to catch our fish and seafood; and

WHEREAS, these hunters provide the monetary support for wildlife conservation efforts and assist in the preservation and enhancements of wildlife habitats; and

WHEREAS, a substantial portion of all nonresident hunting and fishing licenses are sold to residents of Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas, and the state should find ways to encourage more of our neighbors to come and enjoy all that Louisiana has to offer; and

WHEREAS, countless Louisiana residents travel to our neighboring states to enjoy their wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is charged with the duty to manage, protect, conserve, and replenish the wildlife and fish in the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to examine the possibilities of entering into recreational fishing and hunting license reciprocity agreements with Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas, including an evaluation of current hunting and fishing license categories and how they compare with similar license categories with Arkansas, Mississippi, and Texas, and how they may be improved upon to increase the number of visitors who wish to enjoy Louisiana's wildlife.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and

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Fisheries shall submit the findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources no later than January 1, 2013.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES