

SECOND REGULAR SESSION
HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 55

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5376L.04C

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

1 WHEREAS, our nation is fortunate to possess a wealth of natural resources and we have
2 a long history of stewardship of these resources; and
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4 WHEREAS, just as a farmer carefully tends the land on which his survival depends,
5 many of our country's best resource stewards are those who use the resource and for whom the
6 resource holds intrinsic value for sustenance, survival, or cultural tradition; and
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8 WHEREAS, recreational fishermen and women are prime examples of responsible
9 resource stewards, as they place an extremely high value on the quality and existence of our
10 nation's coastal waters. Recreational fishermen and women respect our country's marine habitats
11 because they know that in order for these ecosystems to sustain the aquatic life and natural
12 wonder for which they are sought, these resources must be protected and carefully managed; and
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14 WHEREAS, fishing as a pastime in our country boasts strong support, with 93 percent
15 of Americans indicating they support legal recreational fishing, and it is an activity that is
16 enjoyed by Americans across all age, gender, socio-economic, and ethnic distinctions; and
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18 WHEREAS, recreational fishermen and women contribute significantly to the national
19 and regional economies through equipment and gear purchases, fuel, lodging, and food, with
20 total related sportfishing expenditures exceeding \$125 billion and supporting over 1 million jobs;
21 and
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23 WHEREAS, President Obama created an Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force in June
24 of 2009 charged with recommending a national policy to ensure the protection, maintenance, and
25 restoration of oceans, our coasts, and the Great Lakes; and
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27 WHEREAS, the Task Force has issued two reports since its creation, the Interim Report
28 of the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force and the Interim Framework for Effective Coastal and
29 Marine Spatial Planning, however the Task Force has failed to expressly recognize responsibly-
30 regulated recreational fishing as a national priority for the oceans and Great Lakes in either of
31 these reports; and
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33 WHEREAS, without its recognition as a national priority, recreational fishing
34 opportunities in the oceans and Great Lakes could become more limited, curtailed, or even
35 potentially eliminated:

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37 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate,
38 Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives
39 concurring therein, hereby strenuously urge President Obama to include recreational fishing and
40 boating in the oceans and Great Lakes as national priorities and ensure and promote recreational
41 fishing and access to public waters in the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force's concluding
42 report and any forthcoming Executive Order based upon the report; and

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44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members strongly urge the members of Congress
45 to take any measure within their power to mitigate or overturn any Executive Order issued to
46 implement recommendations by the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force if such
47 recommendations do not include responsibly-regulated recreational fishing and boating as
48 national priorities for oceans, our coasts, and the Great Lakes and if such recommendations do
49 not ensure and promote recreational fishing and access to public waters; and

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51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this action should in no way be construed to
52 represent support for modifying the congressionally authorized project purposes of the Flood
53 Control Act of 1944; and

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55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed
56 to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for President Obama, the Chairperson of
57 the Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force, the Speaker of the United States House of
58 Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and members of the Missouri
59 congressional delegation.

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