

Student Government Association

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NICHOLLS
STATE UNIVERSITY
A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

Mail 3-17-11
Bayou Region
Congress

March 17, 2011

House and Governmental Affairs Committee
P. O. Box 44486
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4486

Subject: Redistricting Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes


Dear Committee Members:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Nicholls State University Student Government Association Resolution supporting Terrebonne and Lafourche Remaining wholly intact within one Congressional District. The Resolution was approved by the Student Government Association Senate on March 14, 2011. The document was authored by Vice President John Lombardo and Business Senator Matthew Jewell to address our growing concerns regarding this very important legislation.


The Student Government Association of Nicholls State University understands that Congressional seats for each state are adjusted according to population but believes it is critical for the state to keep parishes of Lafourche and Terrebonne together in one congressional district. These beliefs are outlined in the attached Resolution.

We hope that you will support Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes remaining intact within one Congressional District.

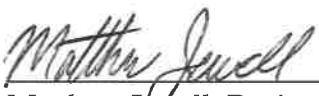
Sincerely,



Brittany Taraba, President
Student Government Association
Nicholls State University



John Lombardo, Vice President
Student Government Association
Nicholls State University



Matthew Jewell, Business Senator
Student Government Association
Nicholls State University

BT/JL/MJ/dlm
Enclosure

**RESOLUTION
NICHOLLS STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

**TO STRONGLY ENDORSE AND SUPPORT TERREBONNE AND LAFOURCHE REMAINING
WHOLLY INTACT WITHIN ONE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT.**

WHEREAS, following the 2010 Census, the number of Congressional seats for each state is adjusted according to population or reapportionment, and it has been determined that Louisiana will lose a Congressional seat;

WHEREAS, the Nicholls State Student Government Association believes it is critical for the state to keep the entire parishes of Lafourche and Terrebonne together in one congressional district;

WHEREAS, Houma–Thibodaux is the fifth largest metropolitan statistical area in Louisiana, ahead of both the Monroe and Lake Charles,MSA;

WHEREAS, Lafourche and Terrebonne will forever remain linked through its federally sanctioned national estuary program – the Barataria–Terrebonne National Estuary, which links our region through our irreplaceable ecological region;

WHEREAS, Lafourche and Terrebonne have claimed the lowest unemployment rate for many years, and this huge economic engine is the result of the substantial business relationships between the two parishes, including many companies maintaining facilities in both parishes;

WHEREAS, located in Lafourche Parish, Port Fourchon is the premier oil and gas port for the Gulf of Mexico, especially deepwater exploration and development, and Terrebonne Parish, the Port of Terrebonne and its businesses work closely with Port Fourchon to provide the necessary support services and ensure the economic engines are continually generating activity for our area;

WHEREAS, the shared interests of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes are visibly evident through mutual infrastructure projects including levee protection and coastal restoration, with several regional entities including levee districts and non-profit organizations working in tandem on both issues;

WHEREAS, the two parishes are the model for setting high standards for regional higher education partnerships through the relationship between Nicholls State University in Thibodaux and Fletcher Technical Community College in Houma;

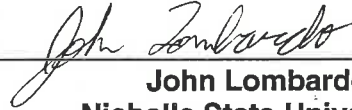
WHEREAS, the shared cultural issue of our Native American population of 18,000 members has a rich history of consolidation between the two parishes, and having been uprooted for centuries, they have finally found a home in the bayous of Terrebonne and Lafourche;

WHEREAS, as mandated by the federal government, our workforce investment board is integrated in Terrebonne and Lafourche parishes, which greatly assists with our workforce development needs;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Nicholls Student Government Association, does hereby endorse and support Terrebonne and Lafourche remaining wholly intact within one Congressional District.



Brittany Taraba
Nicholls State University
Student Government Association
President



John Lombardo
Nicholls State University
Student Government Association
Vice President

To certify that is Relation is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted by the Nicholls State Student Government Association filed under the State of Louisiana, on this 14th day of March, 2011, and that said resolution is duly entered upon the minute book of said organization, and is now in full force and effect.



Matthew Jewell
Nicholls Student University
Student Government Association
Business Senator

