

CPRA LEGISLATION OVERVIEW

2022 REGULAR SESSION



OUR BILLS THAT MADE IT THROUGH THE PROCESS:

1. **HCR 34** by Rep. Bourriaque – the FY 23 CPRA Annual Plan – passed the legislature unanimously.
2. **SB 91** by Sen. Hensgens – the legislation to re-create CPRA – has been signed by the Governor; becomes Act 7.
3. **HB 157** by Rep. Bourriaque – our tax sale title bill has been signed by the Governor; becomes Act 270.
 - a. HB 157 adds integrated coastal protection projects, projects listed in the Master Plan, and levee or drainage projects to the list of interests that are not terminated when the immovable property title is acquired through tax sale.
 - i. Currently, there are protected servitudes for mineral rights, pipeline servitudes, and the like, and we're adding coastal projects to that list. (There are 5 total)
 - ii. Simply this legislation adds coastal projects to the lists of interests that are not extinguished should a piece of property goes up for tax sale and there's an existing servitude agreement.
4. **SB 465** by Sen. Connick – the SLPFA nominating committee custodian of record legislation – has been signed by the Governor; becomes Act 169.
 - a. Simply this legislation just removes the CPRA Board Chairman as the custodian of record for the nominating committees and makes the respective SLPFA regional directors the custodians.

OUR SURPLUS REQUEST:

We weren't able to get the full \$150M as we originally hoped, however, we were fortunate enough to receive \$120M that will fund projects across the coast.

Some project highlights:

- \$23.8M for Paillet and Crown Point Tidal Protection projects in Lafitte
- \$11M for Grand Bayou Ridge Restoration and canal backfilling in Plaquemines parish
- \$6.5M for breakwaters in Grand Isle
- \$12M for construction of the LaBranche shoreline protection project in St. Charles
- \$10M for the Montz Pump Station in St. Charles
- \$10M for Southwest Coastal
- \$12.5M for shoreline protection projects in Vermilion and Cameron parishes

OUR BILLS THAT DID NOT MAKE IT THROUGH THE PROCESS:

1. **HB 636** by Rep. Orgeron – the offshore alternative energy constitutional amendment
2. **HB 687** by Rep. Orgeron – the companion and statutory dedication bill

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These two bills were held in Senate Finance by Chairman White who ultimately objected to the idea of protecting an unknown sum of revenue for coastal protection and restoration. We're hoping to bring both of these bills back next year, which also, hopefully, will be after BOEM has its first wind lease sale in the Gulf of Mexico so we'll have a better projection and idea of the sort of revenues it has would generate.

BILLS WE WERE WATCHING:

1. **HB 97** by Rep. Magee – which removes the sunset for levee restoration or rehabilitation work not publicly bid (the Windell Curole law) – has been sent to the Governor.
 - a. Removes the sunset on the exemption for certain levee work under \$1M
2. **HB 165** by Rep. Zeringue and Rep. Orgeron – which establishes wind leasing acreage and revenue sharing for the state for wind energy – has been sent to the Governor.
3. **HB 221** by Rep. Magee – which increases the various purchasing limits for levee districts – has been signed by the Governor; becomes Act 204.
 - a. Contracts \$60 thousand or higher have to be bid (was \$30 thousand)
 - b. Contracts between \$60 thousand & \$20 thousand can be done by quote
 - c. And contracts up to \$30 thousand can be done by board vote – I believe
4. **HB 589** by Rep. Lacombe – which would reduce the legal servitude for drainage and outfall canals from 100 to 50 feet on either side and make the levee or drainage district liable for any damages caused by its work – was turned into a study resolution (HCR 114) that charges the Louisiana Law Institute to submit a report and potential legislation for next year.
5. **SB 3** by Sen. Allain – which creates the framework for the distribution of monies collected from enforcement actions of coastal use permits – has been signed by the Governor; becomes Act 282.
 - a. 75% of any settlement would go to CPRA
 - b. 25% would go to local governments provided that it's used for integrated coastal protection projects
6. **SB 292** by Sen. Hewitt – the bill that would require specific legislative approval before DEQ or any state agency or department could attempt to regulate GHG emissions or implement anything in the Climate Action Plan – was never scheduled in Senate Environmental Quality Committee.
7. **SB 463** by Sen. White would have created the Coastal Area Flood Protection Authority – a new state agency focused on providing flood protection and coastal restoration for the parishes or portions of the parishes north of the Coastal Zone but in the coastal area, as well as contiguous areas subject to storm and tidal surge in rivers – was heard in Senator White's Senate Finance Committee however after some brief discussion it was voluntarily deferred.