

Surveying the Start of 2023

Congressional and Federal Update

NEAL MCMILLIN, DIRECTOR OF FEDERAL AFFAIRS



GOVERNOR'S
OFFICE OF
COASTAL
ACTIVITIES

Louisiana Senate Delegation for 118th Congress

Member	Committees and Notable Subcommittees (for coastal issues)	Leadership Roles
Senator Bill Cassidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Energy & Natural Resources • Finance • Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) • Veterans' Affairs 	Ranking Member of Senate HELP Committee
Senator John Kennedy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Energy & Water - Commerce, Justice, & Science - Homeland Security - Transportation, Housing & Urban Development • Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs • Budget • Judiciary • Small Business and Entrepreneurship 	Ranking Member Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy & Water (oversees U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)

Louisiana House Delegation for 118th Congress

Member	Committees and Notable Subcommittees (for coastal issues)	Leadership Roles
Representative Troy Carter	Transportation & Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment Homeland Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee on Emergency Management & Technology 	- Minority Leader Hakeem Jefferies' Regional Leadership Council: Region 7 - Congressional Black Caucus Second Vice-Chair - Ranking Member Homeland Security Subcommittee on Emergency Management & Technology
Representative Garret Graves	Transportation & Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management Natural Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries 	- Chairman of the Elected Leadership Committee - Chairman of T&I Subcommittee on Aviation
Representative Clay Higgins	Homeland Security <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee on Transportation & Maritime Security Oversight & Accountability	Chairman of Homeland Security Subcommittee on Border Security and Enforcement
Representative Mike Johnson	Judiciary Armed Services Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government	- Deputy Whip for House Republicans - Vice Chairman of House Republican Conference - Chairman of Judiciary Subcommittee on the Constitution and Limited Government
Representative Julia Letlow	Appropriations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and FDA Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development 	Appropriations Committee
Representative Steve Scalise		House Majority Leader

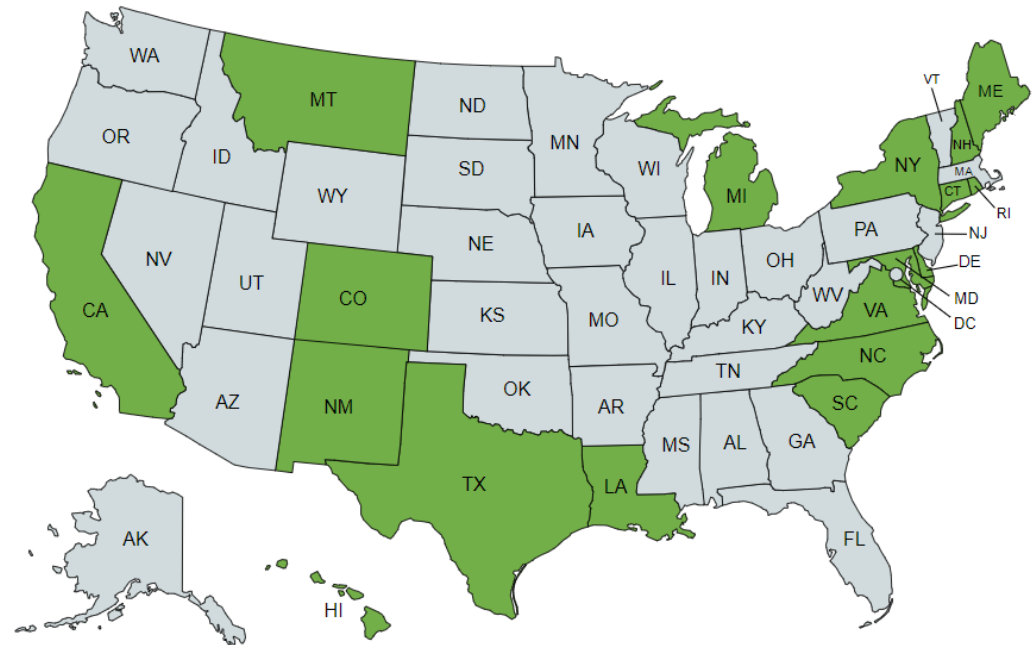
Bicameral, Bipartisan RISEE Act Introduced

S. 373

- Introduced by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA).
- 21 additional cosponsors includes 16 Democrats and 5 Republicans.
- The 16 states represented are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Virginia.
- Senator Kennedy is an original cosponsor.

H.R. 913

- Introduced by Representative Lizzie Fletcher (D-TX-07) and Representative Randy Weber (R-TX-14).
- 4 additional cosponsors includes 3 Democrats and 1 Republican.
- The 5 states represented are California, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, and Virginia.



Map of states with a member of Congress supporting the RISEE Act

The RISEE Act – Policies & Estimated Value

Removes revenue sharing limitation in GOMESA

- Eliminate statutory cap of \$375 million to GOMESA states and coastal political subdivisions and \$125 million to Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).
- Adds reporting requirements for States to Dept. of Interior. Interior is limited in its response.
- Clarifies eligible uses that projects cannot be solely for entertainment purposes.
- Waives 2% administrative fee for inland states.
- Affirms that revenue sharing is not equivalent to a federal grant or award (House version).

Revenue sharing from offshore wind development, split similarly to GOMESA, albeit with no limiting cap:

- 37.5% to coastal states based on distance to project
- 12.5% to National Oceans and Coastal Security Fund (NOCSF)
- 50% to U.S. Treasury

Start date of January 1, 2022 includes some very valuable wind lease sales.

Louisiana is forecasted to gain \$1.9 billion over 10 years (FY23-FY32) from removing the cap.

Louisiana would receive at approximately \$34.1 million from NOCSF from wind leasing bids to date, plus additional shared revenues from local wind lease sales in 2023.

The RISEE Act – Supporters

National Organizations

American Clean Power Association
American Shore & Beach Preservation Association
American Sportfishing Association
Avangrid
Citizens Climate Lobby
Citizens for Responsible Energy Solutions
City Parks Alliance
Coastal States Organization
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Consumer Energy Alliance
Ducks Unlimited
Environmental Defense Fund
Fugro
Joint Ocean Initiative Commission
National Association of Counties
National Association of State Energy Officials
National Association of State Outdoor Recreation Liaison Officers
National Audubon Society
National Marine Manufacturers Association
National Ocean Industries Association
National Ocean Policy Coalition
National Recreation and Parks Association
National Wildlife Federation
Orsted
Shell
The Nature Conservancy
The Ocean Conservancy
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Trust for Public Land

Louisiana Organizations

Coalition of Coastal Resiliency and Economy
CPRA
GNO Inc.
Greater New Orleans Expressway Commission
Jefferson Parish Chamber of Commerce
Jefferson Parish Economic Development and Port District
Louisiana Wildlife Federation
Morganza Action Coalition
North Lafourche Levee District
Parishes Advocating for Coastal Endurance (PACE)
Port Fourchon
RESTORE or RETREAT
Restore the Mississippi River Delta Coalition
South Central Industrial Association (SCIA)
St. Tammany Chamber of Commerce
St. Tammany Corporation
The Lower 9th Ward Center for Sustainable Engagement and Development

Additionally, numerous public officials have endorsed the RISEE Act.

Introducing the SHORES Coalition

Congressional feedback recommended a rebranding the grassroots GOMESA Revenue Sharing Coalition (GRSC) to better represent the wide range of stakeholders and constituencies interested in revenue sharing.

Legislation on revenue sharing affects every coastal state, not just the 4 GOMESA states of TX, LA, MS, and AL. Including wind states, in particular, is a priority.

Hence the SHORES Coalition! SHORES stands for SHaring Offshore Revenues from Energy Sources.

Goal is to build upon the former GRSC to strengthen, expand, and diversify the voices pushing for greater revenue sharing from offshore energy production with coastal states.

Save the Date: There is an upcoming SHORES Coalition DC Fly-in from March 21st - 22nd. Interested? Email Olivia.Ledet@la.gov for more information.



Timing of IIJA & IRA Opportunities in 2023

On February 6th, the Biden Administration provided an update on build.gov called [NOFOs to Know](#). The document shares the timing of currently open awards, as well as a calendar forecasting upcoming opportunities in 2023. The goal is to provide applicants greater advance notice to prepare projects for competitive solicitations.

IIJA/IRA Resilience Opportunities

- **4/23/23:** EPA's [Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement](#)
- **4/23/23:** EPA's [Environmental Justice Government to Government Program](#)
- **Feb. 2023:** Interior's Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration and Protection Projects
- **May 2023:** Commerce's Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal
- **May 2023:** NOAA's Coastal Zone Management
- **May 2023:** NOAA's National Estuarine Research Reserve System
- **May 2023:** NOAA's Transformational Habitat Restoration and Coastal Resilience
- **May 2023:** NOAA's Coastal Habitat Restoration and Resilience Grants for Underserved Communities.
- **Fall 2023:** FEMA's BRIC and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA)



President Biden and Mitch Landrieu, Special Advisor and Infrastructure Coordinator, in 2021. Photo credit Alex Wong/Getty Images

WRDA 2022 Public Comment Period Open

On January 20th, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) initiated in the [Federal Register](#) a 60 day public comment period regarding the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2022.

The comment period closes on **March 21st**.

Public comments will be reviewed by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, which is led by ASA(CW) Michael Connor. His office shapes the interpretation of policy for USACE.

Section 1105 of WRDA 2018 required USACE to solicit comments to better inform the agency's interpretation of the law, which USACE does through issuing guidance.

USACE will [host three public stakeholder sessions](#) to solicit comment at the following times:

- Feb. 15th from 1-3 CST
- Feb. 22nd from 1-3 CST
- March 1st from 1-3 CST

Web link: <https://usace1.webex.com/meet/WRDA2022>

Conference Call Information: (844) 800-2712, Code 199 937 4287



Lake Pontchartrain Basin Restoration Program's CCMP – New Deadline

Federal Funding: Congress provided \$53 million to this program from the IJA. This funding is in addition to the approximately \$1 - \$1.9 million a year. So in total, the program will likely receive over \$12 million a year for the next five years.

Active Proposal Period for CCMP: The program has invited interested parties to [submit written proposals to revise the Comprehensive Conservation Management Plan \(CCMP\)](#). The goal is to combine and revise the 1995 CCMP and 2006 Comprehensive Habitat Management Plan (CHMP). Eligible applicants include units of government, regional water pollution control agencies, and other nonprofits.

Based on stakeholder feedback, the deadline has been extended to **March 17th**.

For more information, reach out to Blair Bourgeois at PRPgrant@unofoundation.org.



Lake Pontchartrain. Photo Credit CPRA