

Reso.

2003-0156

INTRODUCED BY: ALBERT D. LAQUE, PARISH PRESIDENT

RESOLUTION NO. 5097

A resolution requesting that the State of Louisiana acquire the area known as "Elmer's Island" on the Louisiana Gulf Coast, west of and adjacent to Caminada Pass across from Grand Isle, and dedicate it to fish and wildlife conservation and compatible public outdoor recreational uses.

WHEREAS, for many decades, "Elmer's Island", located on the Louisiana Gulf Coast near Grand Isle, has been a popular fishing and camping destination for both Louisiana citizens and out-of-state tourists; and,

WHEREAS, the popularity of Louisiana's excellent recreational saltwater angling has been steadily increasing in recent years, attracting people from all over Louisiana and the nation; and,

WHEREAS, the nature and geography of Louisiana's coast provides for a very limited number of places where people can access good marsh and coastal fishing areas without the aid of a boat; and,

WHEREAS, many people who are not able to fish from a boat due to physical impairments have traveled to "Elmer's Island" because it is a place where they can drive right up to good fishing spots and fish without venturing very far from their vehicle; and,

WHEREAS, "Elmer's Island" has recently been closed and is being advertised for sale by the owners of the property; and,

WHEREAS, the closing of "Elmer's Island" will have a negative impact on both local and state economies; and,

WHEREAS, the acquisition and dedication of Elmer's Island as a public recreation area by the state would avoid potential future litigation and conflicts with private owners over state and federally sponsored coastal restoration work that may impact the area, would preclude future attempts to develop the area with projects that are incompatible with the conservation of coastal wetlands and beaches, and would preserve this traditional family fishing and camping area for public use and enjoyment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. CHARLES PARISH COUNCIL AND THE PARISH PRESIDENT, do hereby urge the State of Louisiana to acquire the area known as "Elmer's Island" on the Louisiana Gulf Coast, west of and adjacent to Caminada Pass across from Grand Isle, and dedicate it to fish and wildlife conservation and compatible public outdoor recreational uses.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Mike Foster, Senator Joel T. Chaisson, II and Representative Gary L. Smith, Jr.

The foregoing resolution having been submitted to a vote, the vote thereon was as follows:

YEAS: RAMCHANDRAN, FAUCHEUX, FABRE, ABADIE, AUTHEMENT, BLACK, MARINO, MINNICH

NAYS: NONE

ABSENT: HILAIRE

And the resolution was declared adopted this 5th day of May, 2003, to become effective five (5) days after publication in the Official Journal.

Elmer's Island

CHAIRMAN.

SECRETARY:

DLVD/PARISH PRESIDENT: May 6, 2003

APPROVED.

DISAPPROVED.

PARISH PRESIDENT

RETD/SECRETARY:

AT: 3:10 p.m.

RECD BY: