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The Honorable Bill Cassidy
United States Senator
520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

February 3, 2023

Re: Reinvesting in America's Shoreline Economic & Ecosystems Act (RISEE)

Dear Senator Cassidy:

The Morganza Action Coalition appreciates you re-introducing the RISEE Act to the 118th Congress. Maintaining the 37.5 percent of royalty sharing for coastal states, eliminating the sharing cap of \$375M, and growing out eligibility of additional GOM leases such as upcoming wind leases to contribute to revenue sharing is vital for Louisiana's efforts to make our coastal communities more resilient to hurricane threats, subsidence and sea-level rise.

As you are aware, Louisiana utilizes these dollars to fund our state's Comprehensive Coastal Master Plan, with projects in the plan already performing a huge role in making our coastal communities more resilient. A sample of this is the significant Louisiana State investment in the Morganza-to-the-Gulf Levee System, which provides flood protection for 250,000 residents and businesses in the sector economies in energy, commercial fisheries, eco-tourism, coastal restoration and recreational fisheries. The state monies have in large part come from the GOMESA offshore revenues sharing program. With these funds and the protection they provide, our coastal communities will continue to furnish jobs for our community, and our unique Southeast Louisiana culture has better chances of surviving.

Besides the benefits to several important sector economies in Louisiana, growing leases which contribute to revenue sharing, whether from oil & gas revenues or from wind-energy producing revenues, benefit our federal government because it will provide funds to the U.S. Treasury and it will protect national assets of our country's most productive seafood estuaries. Please let me know if the Coalition can do anything to further support your efforts of the RISEE Act.

Sincerely,

Henri Boulet
Executive Director