

February 3, 2023

PRESIDENT:

Cory Kief

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, M.D.

520 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR:**

Dwayne Bourgeois

Dear Senator Cassidy:

I am writing to thank you for re-introducing the **REINVESTING IN SHORELINE ECONOMIES AND ECOSYSTEMS (RISEE) Act** and your continued leadership in seeking to expand OCS revenue opportunities for Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, which are vital to sustaining our future along the Gulf coast.

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The North Lafourche Levee District in Lafourche Parish depends on OCS Revenues to provide hurricane flood protection for the numerous families and businesses in Southeastern Louisiana. The State of Louisiana also relies heavily on OCS revenues through the GOMESA to fund its State Coastal Master Plan. With sea-level rise and an increase in hurricanes predicted to threaten our coast, now is a critical time to ensure the Gulf States receive their fair share of OCS funding. GOMESA reform and offshore wind revenue sharing opportunities in the **RISEE Act** would supply the funds that allow our region and state to continue building levee projects, drainage systems and wetland restoration projects in order to preserve our coast, communities, and culture for generations to come.

We support the **RISEE Act** and urge you to continue fighting for a fair share of OCS revenues and offshore wind revenue sharing opportunities. Louisiana maintains current infrastructure that supports our ecotourism, migratory bird habitat, fisheries, current energy production and is willing to produce and adapt to the resources necessary for future clean wind energy developments and other renewables. Rightfully so, the revenues derived from all energy sources should be invested into coastal protection and wetland restoration and preservation for the Gulf Coast's long-term existence. With the support of dozens of national environmental, fisheries, and conservation groups along with the support of every entity working to protect our citizens and their culture from flooding, there is simply no reason why this bi-partisan legislation should not be passed into law. We need this. Our nation needs this.

Sincerely,



Dwayne Bourgeois
Executive Director
North Lafourche Levee District

