



ST. TAMMANY CORPORATION

The Economic Development Organization for St. Tammany

February 2, 2023

U.S. Senator Bill Cassidy, M.D.
520 Hart Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cassidy,

On behalf of St. Tammany Corporation/St. Tammany Parish Development District, we are writing today to express our support for the Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems (RISEE) Act, which seeks to reform the Gulf of Mexico Energy Securitization Act (GOMESA) and create a revenue sharing program from future offshore wind development in federal waters. We support and champion GOMESA and offshore wind, and we celebrate your efforts to achieve a more equitable resource sharing between the states and federal conservation programs while simultaneously fighting to capture the revenues generated from offshore wind leases and production. We believe that there is no better time to ensure parity for Louisiana and increased funds for our coastal restoration and hurricane protection projects and infrastructure improvements.

As the lead economic development organization for St. Tammany Parish, we are deeply invested in measures that create more revenue for the sustainability of vital aspects of our economy, such as coastal resiliency. GOMESA is a critical funding source for Louisiana's comprehensive Coastal Master Plan, which we advance as a mechanism to protect existing and future investment in Louisiana and develop an exportable knowledge-based industry and specialized workforce. Additionally, the Gulf of Mexico represents one of the largest offshore wind markets in the nation, so it is critical that our state is positioned to economically benefit from the production and leases yielded from offshore wind. Accordingly, we support the passage of the RISEE legislation, as its current posture truly captures present and future opportunities to foster economic development through offshore wind and coastal restoration and protection.

We sincerely appreciate your ongoing efforts to work in the best interest of the State of Louisiana. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Chris Masingill
Chief Executive Officer