Introduced August 13, 2013, by Councilman Caruso, seconded by Council Members Cusimano, Harbison, Hicks, Abney, Lloyd, Fraught, Newcomb, Borchert

RESOLUTION R13-17

A resolution in opposition to the Biggert-Waters Act of 2012.

WHEREAS, the Biggert-Waters Act of July 16, 2012, if left unamended by Congress, will result in enormous ruinous increases in annual premiums to buy flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program; and

WHEREAS, the National Flood Insurance Program was designed specifically to provide affordable flood insurance to both homeowners and business owners; and

WHEREAS, both homeowners and business owners have responsibly protected their properties by buying flood insurance as recommended by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the NFIP; and

WHEREAS, very few, if any, homeowners or business owners will be able to afford the new premiums provided for by the Biggert-Waters Act of 2012; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of homes and businesses from the Statue of Liberty to Jackson Square and beyond will be abandoned by their owners who will form a new migration, a new Trail of Tears, into the interior of our country; and

WHEREAS, this twenty-first (21st) century migration will ruin millions upon millions of individual lives, evacuate our coast lines, and destroy the economy of at least the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts.

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council in legal session convened that we do hereby implore the Congress and President of the United States to:

- 1). Immediately stop the implementation of the Biggert-Waters Act, 2012.
- Pending rational reform, continue to provide flood insurance to both homeowners and business owners through the National Flood Insurance Program under the conditions currently (August 2013) prevailing, and to immediately fund and implement new, accurate flood maps for the entire United States by 2016.
- 3). Immediately begin working on a true National Catastrophe Insurance Program which would provide insurance at affordable rates to all Americans for protection against all forms of natural disasters known to occur in the United States such as, but not limited to, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, earthquakes, volcanoes, forest fires, mud slides, and drought.

OR

4). Absent action as indicated above, begin to immediately pay all affected homeowners and business owners the full value of their homes and businesses as determined by a professional appraisal process done prior to the implementation of the Biggert-Waters Act of 2012 and to pay them the full cost of their migration to the interior of the country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we urge all of our citizens to contact the members of our Congressional delegation to ask them to support the ideas of this resolution.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that we hereby thank the members of our Congressional delegation for their work done so far attempting to solve this problem.

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ADOPTED this 13th day of August, 2013.

Landon Cusimano

Vice President of the Council

Councilman-at-Large

Thomas P. Reeves Council Administrator

CONCUR:

Freddy Drennan Mayor of Slidell