

SENATE BILL NO. 802

BY SENATORS GRAY AND NEVERS

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact Chapter 33 of Title 25 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 25:1301 through 1307; to reestablish and provide for the Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 33 of Title 25 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 25:1301 through 1307, is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

CHAPTER 33. HURRICANE KATRINA MEMORIAL COMMISSION

§1301. Declaration of purpose

A.(1) The Legislature of Louisiana hereby recognizes that the events of August 29, 2005, and the days following, when Hurricane Katrina struck Louisiana a deadly blow and so many in Louisiana lost their lives, are among the most historic in the entire history of Louisiana.

(2) The legislature further recognizes that it is appropriate for the state to commemorate this tragic event and to memorialize the more than one thousand citizens who lost their lives.

B. The legislature declares, therefore, that it is the purpose of this Chapter to create the Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission to make recommendations for an appropriate memorial to commemorate those who lost their lives in Louisiana in Hurricane Katrina.

§1302. Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission; creation; appointments of members; terms; officers; meetings; domicile

1                   A. The Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission, hereafter referred to as the  
2 "commission," is hereby created and established in the office of the governor.

3                   B. The commission shall consist of sixteen members appointed as follows to  
4 serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority:

5                   (1) Four members appointed by the governor.

6                   (2) One member appointed by the lieutenant governor.

7                   (3) One member appointed by the president of the New Orleans City Council.

8                   (4) One member appointed by the mayor of the city of New Orleans.

9                   (5) One member appointed by the Jefferson Parish Council.

10                  (6) One member appointed by the St. Bernard Parish Council.

11                  (7) One member appointed by the Plaquemines Parish Council.

12                  (8) Three members appointed by the president of the Senate.

13                  (9) Three members appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.

14                  C. Each appointment by the governor shall be submitted to the Senate for  
15 confirmation.

16                  D. The members of the commission shall elect a chairman, vice chairman,  
17 and other officers as they deem necessary for the efficient operation of the business  
18 of the commission.

19                  E. The members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but  
20 they shall be reimbursed on a vouchered basis for actual expenses, including travel  
21 expenses, to the extent that funds are made available for such purpose.

22                  F. A vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be filled in the same  
23 manner as the original appointment.

24                  G.(1) The commission shall meet at such times and places as it may  
25 designate. All meetings shall be held at the call of the chairman or at the call of a  
26 quorum of members upon not less than seven days written notice, unless notice is  
27 waived. A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum for  
28 the transaction of any and all business at any regular or special meeting.

29                  (2) The first meeting of the commission shall be held within ninety days after  
30 ~~June 29, 2006~~ **July 1, 2008**, on call of the governor.

1 §1303. Powers and duties

2 A. The commission shall:

3 (1) Determine the general type and nature of an appropriate state memorial  
4 for those who lost their lives in Louisiana as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

5 (2) Identify an appropriate site or sites for such a memorial.

6 B. The commission may seek cooperation, advice, and assistance from both  
7 private and governmental agencies and organizations, including local governments,  
8 learned societies, academic institutions, and historical, patriotic, philanthropic, civic,  
9 and professional groups and associations in carrying out its purpose.

10 §1304. Funding; donations and grants

11 The commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of any private or public  
12 funds in the form of donations of money, grants, property, or personal services from  
13 individuals, corporations, and governments for purposes of the memorial. However,  
14 the commission shall first adopt rules and regulations under which it may accept  
15 such donations or grants of money, property, or personal services, including the  
16 procedure for determining the value of the donation.

17 §1305. Annual report

18 The commission shall submit a report, not later than March 1, ~~2007~~ **2009**, to  
19 the governor, the president of the Senate, and the speaker of the House of  
20 Representatives. The report shall include recommendations for the type and nature  
21 of the memorial and a site or sites for such memorial.

22 §1306. Cooperation by other state entities

23 All departments, commissions, boards, agencies, officers, and institutions of  
24 the state and all subdivisions thereof shall cooperate with the commission in carrying  
25 out the powers and purposes of this Chapter.

26 §1307. Termination of commission

27 The commission shall terminate on ~~December 31, 2007~~ **July 1, 2010**.

28 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
29 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
30 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
2 effective on the day following such approval.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_