

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

January 31, 1957

Honorable Leon C. Vial
Sheriff
St. Charles Parish
Hahnville, Louisiana

Dear Leon:

I am enclosing herewith a bill which I introduced in the House of Representatives this week.

This bill would provide for extending the levee along Lake Pontchartrain from the Jefferson Parish line to the Spillway.

It follows the same approach which was used in building the Jefferson Parish Levee where a 25% local contribution was required. In the case of Jefferson Parish this contribution was provided by the Pontchartrain Levee Board, and I would think that a similar contribution would be in order for St. Charles Parish.

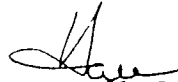
In addition interior drainage would have to be provided by the Parish or local Drainage District.

The passage of this bill and the building of this levee would, of course, open up a tremendous area of St. Charles Parish for development.

After you have had a chance to study it I would appreciate hearing from you.

In the meantime Lindy joins in sending our best to you and the members of your family.

Sincerely,



HALE BOGGS, M.C

HB:br

Encl.

85TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3806

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 28, 1957

Mr. Bocos introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Works

A BILL

To modify and extend the project for Lake Pontchartrain,
Louisiana.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the project for Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana, author-
4 ized by the Flood Control Act approved July 24, 1946, as
5 amended by the Act approved May 17, 1950, is hereby
6 further modified and extended to provide for construction of
7 an extension to the existing levee and shore protection
8 along the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain from its present
9 terminus in the vicinity of the Jefferson-Saint Charles Parish
10 Line across Saint Charles Parish to the east guide levee of the
11 Bonnet Carre Floodway under the supervision of the Chief of

1 Engineers and the direction of the Secretary of the Army, for
2 flood and hurricane protection substantially in accordance
3 with plans to be prepared by the Chief of Engineers: *Pro-*
4 *vided*, That local interests (a) provide free of cost to the
5 United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-way neces-
6 sary for the improvement, (b) contribute 25 per centum of
7 the cost of the construction work either in cash or in perform-
8 ance of work, (c) provide drainage canals and pumping
9 facilities as may be required for interior drainage, (d) hold
10 and save the United States free from damages due to con-
11 struction of the improvement, and (e) agree to maintain
12 and operate all the works after completion.

13 SEC. 2. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated
14 such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes
15 of this Act.

LAW OFFICES
GEORGE T. OUBRE

Norco, LA
March 1, 1973

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Senator Russell B. Long
United States Senate
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Long:

Pursuant to my recent telephone conversation with Bob Hunter of your office; I would like to have an appointment to see you the next time you are in Louisiana either in New Orleans or Baton Rouge in reference to the hurricane protection levee along Lake Pontchartrain in St. Charles Parish.

I know your interest in this most important project and I am sure that you are familiar with the fact that I was as well as the responsible citizens of this Parish are also in favor of this project. As you will note I am sending a copy of this letter to both the Pontchartrain Levee Board and the St. Charles Parish Police Jury. Both of these political subdivisions have recently taken action urging the Corps of Engineers to expedite whatever studies must be taken and to commence this project as soon as feasible.

Drainage has always been one of the major problems that we've faced in this parish on both banks of the river. On the East Bank many years ago to avoid constant flooding that was with us; the town of Norco set up a gravity drainage district and leveed in the entire town, this has pretty much solved our problems at least temporarily. As you well know Shell Oil Company has also leveed itself in and as a result it has solved its problems. However, both of these areas just mentioned are discharging the waters within their leveed boundaries into the open area on the East Bank of the river. As a result of this and as a result of the tremendous population growth that we've seen in the Parish more and more water is being discharged into the area which is not now protected from tidal overflow, and as a subsequent result the residents of the other wards of the

Senator Russell B. Long

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parish; wards 3 and 5 and in particular the towns of New Sarpy, Destrehan and St. Rose are constantly being flooded as a result of poor drainage. At the present time as you and I both know the Mississippi River is at a very high stage, in fact is the highest that I can remember for this time of year. If the river continues to rise there is a probability that the Bonne Carre' Spillway will be opened. Even if the spillway is not opened, because of the rains and the high water that we are experiencing there is a great likelihood that much of this water will be dumped into Lake Pontchartrain and will cause the lake to swell; any unusual rainfall that we experience with any adverse tidal flow from the lake will cause flooding to the low lying areas of St. Charles Parish. As long as this condition persists we have two problems in our Parish; first, the present normal growth and the present inhabitants of the parish will be constantly faced with flood situations. In addition to this, this condition effectively thwarts any chance that this parish can grow and achieve its rightful place amongst the most prosperous parishes in this state. As you and I know there is a tremendous amount of interest in developing the property in St. Charles Parish because of the fact that both Orleans and Jefferson Parish have just about grown out of their seams. Unless this levee is built and unless those of us in East St. Charles Parish are given the opportunity to be able to live free from the constant threat of flooding, the problems I have just mentioned will not be lessened but in fact will become more severe.

Your immediate attention to this most pressing problem is requested; and as I mentioned the next time you are in this state I would like to meet with you along with some of the land owners in the area to discuss with you their interest in the problem and to let you know their 100% wholehearted support for this particular project.

Give my regards to all and I hope that everyone is enjoying good health.

Sincerely,

Original Signed

GEORGE T. OUBRE
George T. Oubre

GTO/jom

cc: St. Charles Parish Police Jury
Pontchartrain Levee Board