

103^D CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4770

To require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a study to determine the lands and waters comprising the LaBranche Wetlands in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, and to acquire those lands and waters for inclusion in the Bayou Sauvage Urban National Wildlife Refuge.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 14, 1994

Mr. TAUZIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries

A BILL

To require the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a study to determine the lands and waters comprising the LaBranche Wetlands in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana, and to acquire those lands and waters for inclusion in the Bayou Sauvage Urban National Wildlife Refuge.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. STUDY AND ACQUISITION OF LABRANCHE WET-**
2 **LANDS FOR INCLUSION IN BAYOU SAUVAGE**
3 **URBAN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE.**

4 (a) STUDY.—Not later than 6 months after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Director of the United
6 States Fish and Wildlife Service (in this section referred
7 to as the “Director”) shall conduct a study to survey and
8 determine the lands and waters that comprise the area
9 popularly known as the “LaBranche Wetlands”, located
10 generally along Interstate 10 between New Orleans and
11 Baton Rouge in St. Charles Parish, Louisiana. The Direc-
12 tor shall provide an opportunity for submission by the
13 public of comments on the subject of the study. After com-
14 pletion of the study, the Director shall make the results
15 of the study available at offices of the United States Fish
16 and Wildlife Service in the vicinity of the LaBranche Wet-
17 lands.

18 (b) ACQUISITION.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
20 completion of the study under subsection (a), the Di-
21 rector shall acquire from willing sellers the lands
22 and waters determined under subsection (a) to com-
23 prise the LaBranche Wetlands.

24 (2) PRICE.—As consideration for an area of
25 lands or waters acquired under this subsection, the
26 Director shall pay to the seller the fair market value

1 of the area, determined without considering restric-
2 tions on use of the area established under Federal
3 law after the date the seller acquired the area.

4 (c) ADDITION TO REFUGE.—Lands and waters ac-
5 quired by the Director under subsection (b) are included
6 in and shall be administered by the Director as part of
7 the Bayou Sauvage Urban National Wildlife Refuge.

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