

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JULY 11, 2007
CONTACT: Danielle Doiron
PHONE: 225-342-1773

2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION WRAP-UP

SEN. MARIONNEAUX ANNOUNCES OVER \$11 MILLION IN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS HEADED TO IBERVILLE PARISH

District 17 State Senator Robert Marionneau, Jr. (D-Livonia) has announced the results of this year's legislative session and declares it a success for Iberville Parish.

Iberville Parish will see an array of projects and improvements as a result of the 2007 legislative session totaling \$11,677,000.00. From HB 1, \$207,000.00 was allocated to the parish for projects such as after-school tutorial programs, fire protection, sales tax dedications, and the North and Central Iberville Community Centers. Iberville Parish will also receive \$11,470,000.00 from HB 2 for projects such as an emergency shelter and sewer improvements.

Several major initiatives were also funded in the budget for the 2007-08 Fiscal year, such as \$157.6 million for teachers to reach the southern regional average, an average of \$3,988.00 per year for Iberville Parish teachers, \$30 million for higher education, \$33.9 million for support workers, an average of \$1,000.00 per year, 142.6 million for state employees, an average of \$1,500.00 each, \$35.1 million for corrections, probation and parole officers, \$28.3 million for supplemental pay for police and firefighters, raising the monthly supplemental pay from \$300.00 to \$450.00.

"I am happy that we have passed these bills which include significant appropriations for the parish," said Sen. Robert Marionneau. He continued, "Representative St. Germain really helped guide these allocations through the process."

Representative St. Germain added, "Teachers, support personnel and emergency responders need to know that we are behind them. A lot of hard work has gone into the different projects and they are well deserved by the residents of Iberville Parish."

The projects listed in HB 2, the state capital outlay bill, details how cash and revenue from state bond sales will be used in the 2007-2008 fiscal year for construction, renovation and repair projects throughout the state. The projects included in HB 2 for Iberville Parish totaled \$11,470,000.00 and include:

- Greater Baton Rouge Port Commission
Port Jurisdiction (East Baton Rouge, West Baton Rouge, Iberville, and Ascension Parishes) Security Improvements, Planning and Construction \$3,870,000.00
- State of Emergency Warehouse, Gillis
West Long Center, Planning and Construction \$3,400,000.00

-more-

- Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women

Air Handler Unit Replacement/Upgrade-Aquarius Dormitory	\$700,000.00
-Iberville Parish	
North Iberville Community Center, Planning and Construction	\$820,000.00
-Village of Grosse Tete	
Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade,	
Planning and Construction	\$660,000.00
Sewer System Improvements, Planning and Construction	\$750,000.00
-City of St. Gabriel	
Community Center Turn Lane and Deceleration Lane	\$500,000.00

Lawmakers approve the capital outlay bill every year, but the projects listed in the bill do not move forward until the State Bond Commission gives its approval.

Also passed was HB 1, the general operating budget for the State of Louisiana which is now \$29.7 billion dollars. This figure represents a 3.13 percent increase from last year's budget due to the disaster recovery funds from the federal government. This amount includes \$8.4 billion in federal revenue for hurricane recovery. Included in HB 1 were monies for Iberville Parish, which totaled \$207,000. Those monies include:

-North Iberville Community Center	\$100,000.00
-Central Iberville Community Complex, Inc.	
For after-school tutorial programs	\$10,000.00
-Central Iberville Community Complex and Health Care, Inc.	\$ 5,000.00
-Sales Tax Dedications	\$ 3,500.00
-Iberville Parish Visitor Enterprise Fund	\$ 3,500.00
-Central Iberville Community Complex	\$10,000.00
-Bayou Goula Volunteer Fire Department	\$10,000.00
-Bayou Pigeon Volunteer Fire Department	\$10,000.00
-Bayou Sorrel Volunteer Fire Department	\$10,000.00
-East Iberville Volunteer Fire Association	\$10,000.00
-Lions Club Grosse Tete Chapter	\$10,000.00
-Lions Club of Maringouin	\$ 5,000.00
-Town of Maringouin Volunteer Fire Department	\$10,000.00
-Town of White Castle Volunteer Fire Department	\$10,000.00

Sen. Marionneaux said, "These projects along with the funding associated with each will have a tremendous economic impact on the parish."

This legislative session Senator Marionneaux authored legislation that would establish an annual Louisiana Sales Tax Holiday (SB 3), grant an individual income tax deduction for elementary and secondary education tuition (SB 45) for monies expended to send their kids to private or parochial schools, require elected officials to disclose sources of their income (SB 157), and provide for stipends for military personnel killed or injured while on active duty (SB 158). Senator Marionneaux also authored a Senate Resolution for each Louisiana soldier killed in Iraq or Afghanistan, and honored the soldier and their family during Military Family Day at the Capitol.

-more-

For more information please refer to the legislative web site at: www.legis.state.la.us or contact Sen. Marionneaux at 225-637-3623 or Rep. St. Germain at 225-687-2410.

