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The Honorable Bill Cassidy, M.D.
520 Hart Senate Office Building
The United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

February 1, 2023

Dear Senator Cassidy:

We are writing in support of the **Reinvesting in Shoreline Economies and Ecosystems (RISEE) Act**, which would establish several dedicated streams of funding for coastal infrastructure and resiliency. Establishing investments like those outlined in the RISEE Act is foundational to implementing Louisiana's Comprehensive Coastal Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast, which aims to protect over two million people, dynamic wildlife habitat, a strong natural resources workforce and a vibrant culture, which has played a large part fueling our nation's economy over the last several decades.

As a non-profit coastal advocacy organization, we endeavor to implement long-term restoration solutions for Louisiana's coast, which loses up to a football field of land every 100 minutes. For over 20 years, our mission has been to develop a diverse membership that supports sustainable investments to protect our coast, community and culture. Our state requires revenues derived from ALL energy sources (both traditional hydrocarbons AND renewables) to be spent to restore and protect our coastal infrastructure. The RISEE Act once passed would allow us to not only increase our current coastal investments, but also have a greater stake in establishing new investments through offshore wind leases, which we are well suited to design, build, and maintain here in the Bayou Region along the Gulf Coast.

We stand ready, willing, and able to assist with finding a way to balance both the economy and environment of our working coast through sustainable coastal investments—so going forward, please let us know how we can be of assistance and thank you for allowing us an opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Sincerely,
Restore or Retreat, Inc.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joseph A. Orgeron".

Joseph A. Orgeron, Ph.D.
Executive Director