

SENATOR'S NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SENATOR A.G. CROWE CALLS ATTENTION TO MISSISSIPPI RIVER DREDGING AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

SENDS LETTER TO STATE LEGISLATORS IN HEARTLAND STATES

District 1 State Senator A.G. Crowe (R-Slidell) recently sent a heartfelt letter to 6,000 state legislators in 33 states to garner their attention regarding Mississippi River dredging problems and the consequences the lack of federal funding could have on their economies. The letter urged legislators to contact their congressional representatives in support of adequate funding.

Because of a deep cut in federal spending on the dredging project, tighter restrictions have been placed on the water ways. Inadequate dredging has hampered maintenance of an appropriate water level, putting a dent in the amount of cargo flowing through ports. This results in millions of lost revenue which could eventually translate into lay-offs and cut-backs. Sen. Crowe says that the letter's purpose is to serve as a catalyst in protecting these jobs and highlight the economic dangers that could arise if the problem is not corrected.

"The economy of thirty-three states along the Mississippi River and its tributaries will remain in jeopardy unless adequate federal funding comes through soon to keep the 25-mile stretch of the Southwest Pass on the lower Mississippi River dredged for ocean going, cargo-carrying vessels," wrote Sen. Crowe.

Sen. Crowe also made a trip to Washington D.C. to personally address the dredging issue with various U.S. Representatives and Senators, including Senator Vitter and Wicker and Representatives Alexander, Boustany, Cassidy, Landry and Scalise. He hopes his efforts will shed light on a serious problem and help to bring about a swift solution.

For additional comments or questions call 985-643-3600.

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PLEASE SEE ATTACHED LETTER