

MEMBER: Barry Erwin PROPOSAL# Erwin #08 REFERRED TO AG on: _____
 SUBJECT: GOHSEP - Sheltering Capacity DATE REPORTED BY AG: _____ REPORT: _____
 COMMISSION ACTION: WITHDRAWN ** DATE: December 8, 2009

RECOMMENDATION: Governor's Office on Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP) work with Louisiana's congressional delegation to identify and utilize federal funding for establishing additional shelter-capacity in-state for Louisiana residents who cannot self-evacuate and shelter during emergency periods.

Summary Description/Nature of Change	Key/Implementation Responsibilities	Need	Action Needed	Benefit/Saving	Done/ Study
GOHSEP work with Louisiana's congressional delegation to identify and utilize federal funding for establishing additional shelter-capacity in-state for Louisiana residents who cannot self-evacuate and shelter during emergency periods.	GOHSEP working with Louisiana congressional delegation, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), local officials, Dept. of Social Services (DSS), and Red Cross.	Sheltering capacity needs to be increased in-state in order to reduce reliance on other states to shelter our residents. This should reduce state costs of evacuation and sheltering. In addition, FEMA's hazard mitigation grant funding should be available for such purposes. Currently in-state shelter capacity is about 14,000 and there are approximately 50,000 residents needing assistance during a full, coastal evacuation.	Louisiana's congressional delegation working with state and federal officials to authorize the use of hazard mitigation grant funding to secure additional sheltering capacity in-state. GOHSEP working with local officials, DSS and Red Cross to plan and implement strategic investments in additional emergency sheltering.	By building emergency sheltering capacity in Louisiana, the state's cost during an emergency evacuation should be significantly reduced. If strategically implemented, there should be significant less reliance on costly coach buses, trains, and airplanes to evacuate residents.	Need federal approval for hazard mitigation grant funding to be used for securing additional in-state emergency sheltering capacity.

** - See Recommendation #74