

LSU TIGERS
 BCS CHAMPS GEAR
the FAN SHOP

CLICK HERE

2theadvocate.com

Produced by The Advocate and WBRZ News 2 Louisiana

Baton Rouge Temperature: 87°

SEARCH:

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [Traffic](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Calendars](#)
- [Video](#)
- [Weddings](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [WBRZ](#)
- [Advocate](#)
- [Obituaries](#)

Saturday, July 19, 2008

[E-mail Alerts](#) |
 [Text Alerts](#) |
 [Mobile Site](#) |
 [RSS Feeds](#) |
 [Make us your home page](#)

[2theadvocate](#) > [News](#)

NEWS

Jindal asks more time, fairness on levee costs

10 Rules of Stomach Fat

Drop 9 lbs of Stomach Fat every 11 Days by Obeying these 10 Rules.

FatLoss4Idiots.com

5 Tips to Lose Belly Fat

Stop making these 5 mistakes & you will finally lose your ugly belly.

www.BellyFatsUgly.net

By ALLEN M. JOHNSON JR.

Advocate New Orleans bureau

Published: Jul 19, 2008 - Page: 9A - **UPDATED: 12:05 a.m.**

[Comments \(5\)](#)

Print
 Email
 Save
 Share

NEW ORLEANS — Gov. Bobby Jindal, angered over the increased costs that storm-wounded Louisiana must shoulder for construction of hurricane protection levees, asked Washington for more time — and a little fairness.

Under the latest war spending bill, Louisiana must kick in \$1.8 billion by 2011 in order to activate \$5.8 billion in federal funding needed to strengthen the New Orleans-area levee system.

Jindal said Louisiana's share for repairs to the 360-mile, federally maintained levee system, is higher post-Katrina, than before the storm. "It seems ridiculous," Jindal said, tersely.

He added: "I have yet to find one federal official who can explain to me why Louisiana should be paying more for our cost share."

He asked for Congress and the White House to allow Louisiana to pay its share in the next 30 years rather than the three years now required by the war bill.

Jindal also indicated Republican and Democratic officials in the state were united on the state's responsibility for its





share of hurricane levee protection.

The state paid \$300 million for levee costs under his administration this year, he said. Meanwhile, Democratic predecessor Gov. Kathleen Blanco added \$200 million in 2007, her last year in office.

"We're willing to pay our share; we just want the flexibility that has been offered to other states," Jindal said.

Without more time from Washington, Louisiana will be forced to make deep cuts in critical areas, such as schools, social services and coastal restoration, the governor said.

"Today, our first and foremost priority has to be coastal erosion," he said. "Healthier wetlands are needed to protect us. Levees alone will not save us."

He also issued an ominous warning: "Over the next few years, we as a state have to make generational decisions on areas we want to protect and areas we want to restore."

He said many federal policymakers have expressed sympathy for Louisiana, which suffered a one-two punch from hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, but that sympathy "needs to be translated into legislative action."

"The administration can administratively give us the time we're asking for," Jindal said of President Bush, a fellow Republican. In the alternative, new language could be included in a congressional housing bill before Congress breaks for its August research.

The governor repeatedly made it clear that Louisiana would pay its increased share of levee repairs, but left no doubt — he didn't like it.

"We will keep our commitment through 2011," he told a news conference at Jackson Barracks, a Louisiana National Guard facility in the Lower 9th Ward, following a flyover of the state's eroding coastline with top officials from the federal Corps of Engineers.

Jindal also said the state has yet to receive royalties from oil and gas drilling in the Gulf of Mexico. Louisiana officials expect the state to receive up to \$650 million a year by 2017.

Newly elected St. Bernard Parish President Craig Taffaro, also a Republican, said his hurricane-depopulated parish has an operating budget of \$23 million, and cannot afford the annual payments that would be required by the federal government's three-year levee construction plan.

"We would be expected to cough up \$4 million a year — that is simply undoable," Taffaro said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report

Comments (5)

Your name: 

Your e-mail:  (Will not be published)

Submit

Hide Comment Form

Monica

Saturday, Jul 19, 2008
7:40 AM

Report Violation

More money? More time? Is this really an investment America should make? I'm already paying \$4/gallon so how much worse could it possibly get if Louisiana sinks into the Gulf? I'd rather pay twice for gas than pay for another dumb levee in a swamp.

Not Joe

Saturday, Jul 19, 2008
8:33 AM

Report Violation

Monica - That EXACTLY why you and I and everyone else needs the map Mike Merritt is asking about. Jindal gets it; his "ominous warning" that "... we as a state have to make generational decisions on areas we want to protect and areas we want to restore" is the correct way out of the coastal mess we're in. We can't fix it all, no matter how much cash the Feds send down here, so we must chose. The geologically aware people are trying to prevent "dumb levees in swamps."

Not Joe

Saturday, Jul 19, 2008
8:48 AM

Report Violation

Monica - This is EXACTLY why Mike Merritt was correct to ask for those maps. Geologically aware people don't want build "dumb levees in swamps." Jindal gets it; that's why he gave the "ominous warning" of "[o]ver the next few years, we as a state have to make generational decisions on areas we want to protect and areas we want to restore." A big driver in the "restore or retreat" decision will be what is (a) practical and (b) affordable.

Monica

Saturday, Jul 19, 2008
9:39 AM

Report Violation

Retreat. Respect the fact that you all and the Corps have destroyed that area and don't expect the rest of America to pay for your follies. I'd rather pay a few hundred extra dollars a year for gas than see America pay billions of tax dollars to "save" a swamp. And, of course, you all have a most excellent record of responsible government and expenditure of tax dollars.

Not Joe

Saturday, Jul 19, 2008
10:09 AM

Report Violation

Monica - Stroll over to http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2008/07/jindal_presses_bush_over_levee.html, scroll down to the comments, and bask in the radiant heat coming off the attitude of "johnbgood."

ADVERTISEMENTS
[CLICK HERE TO ADVERTISE](#)





PROMOTIONS
[CLICK TO VIEW PROMOTIONS](#)



WBRZ CHANNEL 2
[CLICK TO VIEW SCHEDULE](#)



[PREV](#)

Now on 2theadvocate.com

[NEXT](#)

**2theadvocate.com
Movie Ticket
Giveaway!**
Win 2 FREE passes to
see "The Mummy"!

**Comic Survey
Results**
The votes are in! Check
and see if your favorite
comics made the top 20!

Coffee and The

Advocate

Start your morning with Community Coffee and The Advocate.

Gas Prices

Click here to see gas prices for our area.

Lottery Numbers

Click here to see winning lotto numbers for Louisiana

Where We Live

Everything you need to know about where we live!

LSU Posters

Click to purchase your new LSU baseball posters of THE LAST game at The Box.

Before the Storm

A hurricane preparedness guide

Weather Blog

Click to read WBRZ's
Weather blog.

Free Family Film Festival

Join us all summer long!

Thrill Ride

Thrill Ride is back! A
great gift for new
graduates and Father's
Day!

Summer Camps 2008!

The Advocate's
comprehensive guide to
summer fun for kids!

Subscribe today

Subscribe today and
receive 20% off
newsstand price with
home delivery

2007 Homicides Interactive

Track all of the homicides
in East Baton Rouge
parish for 2007

Restaurant Guide

Browse and search by cuisine and location for the food you want
Money and Markets View the latest market, stock and mutual fund data online
2theadvocate.com Site Blog News and updates about 2theadvocate.com

Archives

Only staff-produced articles and videos are archived in the [Online search](#). WBRZ videos can be found on the [Video page](#). As a courtesy to our users, we maintain an [Online Daily Archive](#) of all site content from the past 7 days. The Advocate also maintains a [Newspaper Archive](#).

Site Information

Check out our [site blog](#) for the latest news on updates and changes to 2theadvocate.com. Curious about how the site works or what content we can provide to you? Check our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section. Get a detailed listing of all of the site's section with our [site map](#).

Advertising

Have a look at our [media kit](#) for online and offline advertising opportunities.

Subscribe

Subscribe to 2theadvocate.com with any of the feeds on our [Feeds page](#). [Click here](#) to subscribe to The Advocate.

Legal

Copyright © 1992-2008, Louisiana Broadcasting LLC and Capital City Press LLC • 7290 Bluebonnet Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70810 • All Rights Reserved
No unauthorized use is permitted of content produced by The Advocate, WBRZ, 2theadvocate.com or any other publication or media owned by Louisiana Broadcasting LLC and Capital City Press LLC.
Unauthorized use includes framing and direct posting of content on websites other than www.2theadvocate.com.

REAL Cities [A Member of the Real Cities Network](#)

 Have a question, comment, news tip or story idea? [Click here to give us some feedback](#).