

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 197

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHEXNAYDER

FARMING/FARMERS: Requests electric utility companies to collaborate with livestock producers to allow for the repurposing of utility poles replaced during resiliency investments

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request electric utility companies to collaborate with associations representing
3 livestock producers to allow for the repurposing of utility poles that are replaced as
4 a result of statewide resiliency endeavors.

5 WHEREAS, weather events in recent years have caused substantial property damage
6 in our state, including millions of dollars of damage to agricultural property; and

7 WHEREAS, Louisiana law prohibits livestock from roaming at large and authorizes
8 law enforcement to take livestock found at large into custody; and

9 WHEREAS, Louisiana livestock producers are constantly having to rebuild
10 agricultural fences after natural disasters to keep their livestock contained and remain in
11 compliance with state law; and

12 WHEREAS, increased prices of materials along with frequent rebuilding have placed
13 a significant financial burden on livestock producers; and

14 WHEREAS, electric utility companies have developed plans to invest in more
15 resilient and robust infrastructure over the next several years; and

16 WHEREAS, the legislature supports prioritization of these forthcoming investments
17 by electric utility companies, which will result in a stronger grid along with the replacement
18 of many thousands of poles throughout the state of Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, these utility poles could be repurposed by livestock producers as
2 agricultural fencing, minimizing other forms of pole disposal while assisting livestock
3 producers with post-storm recovery.

4 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request electric utility companies operating
6 in Louisiana to collaborate with associations representing livestock producers to allow for
7 the repurposing of utility poles, where environmentally permissible and to the extent
8 possible, during the course of their multi-year utility resilience investments.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
10 executive vice president of the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association, the president of the
11 Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation, and the executive secretary of the Public Service
12 Commission.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 197 Original

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Schexnayder

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