

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 507

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 14:61(B)(1), (C), and (D) and to enact R.S. 14:61(E), relative to
3 the unlawful entry of a critical infrastructure; to provide relative to the definition of
4 a critical infrastructure; to provide for enhanced sentencing upon subsequent
5 offenses; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 14:61(B)(1), (C), and (D) are hereby amended and reenacted and
8 R.S. 14:61(E) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §61. Unauthorized entry of a critical infrastructure

10 * * *

11 B. For the purposes of this Section, the following words shall have the
12 following meanings:

13 (1) "Critical infrastructure" means any and all structures, equipment, or other
14 immovable or movable property located within or upon chemical manufacturing
15 facilities, refineries, electrical power generating facilities, electrical transmission
16 substations and distribution substations, water intake structures and water treatment
17 facilities, natural gas transmission compressor stations, ~~liquified~~ liquefied natural gas
18 (LNG) terminals and storage facilities, natural gas and hydrocarbon storage facilities,
19 transportation facilities, such as ports, railroad switching yards, pipelines, and

1 trucking terminals, water control structures including floodgates or pump stations,
 2 wireline and wireless communications and data network facilities, or any site where
 3 the construction or improvement of any facility or structure referenced in this
 4 Section is occurring.

5 * * *

6 C.(1) ~~Whoever~~ Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection,
 7 whoever commits the crime of unauthorized entry of a critical infrastructure shall be
 8 imprisoned with or without hard labor for not more than five years, fined not more
 9 than one thousand dollars, or both.

10 (2) On a conviction for a second or subsequent violation of Subsection A of
 11 this Section, the offender shall be imprisoned with or without hard labor for not less
 12 than six months nor more than ten years, fined not less than five hundred dollars nor
 13 more than four thousand dollars, or both.

14 D. Whoever commits the crime of unauthorized entry of a critical
 15 infrastructure during the existence of a state of emergency, which has been declared
 16 by the governor or the chief executive officer of any parish, shall be fined not more
 17 than five thousand dollars and shall be imprisoned at hard labor for not less than
 18 three years nor more than fifteen years.

19 ~~D.~~ E. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to apply to or prevent the
 20 following:

21 (1) Lawful assembly and peaceful and orderly petition, picketing, or
 22 demonstration for the redress of grievances or to express ideas or views regarding
 23 legitimate matters of public interest, including but not limited to any labor dispute
 24 between any employer and its employee or position protected by the United States
 25 Constitution or the Constitution of Louisiana.

26 (2) Lawful commercial or recreational activities conducted in the open or
 27 unconfined areas around a pipeline, including but not limited to fishing, hunting,
 28 boating, and birdwatching.

1 (3) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prevent the owner of an
2 immovable from exercising right of ownership, including use, enjoyment, and
3 disposition within the limits and under the conditions established by law.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____