

First Extraordinary Session, 2005

SENATE BILL NO. 8

BY SENATOR MURRAY

PUBLIC UTILITIES. Recognizes restoration and rebuilding of certain utilities as a valid public purpose. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 45:859, relative to utilities; to provide that restoration and rebuilding of
3 certain utilities is a valid public purpose; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 45:859 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

6 **§859. Public purpose; restoration and rebuilding of certain utilities**

7 **The provision of electricity and natural gas is a crucial element in the**
8 **continued prosperity of Louisiana's citizens and businesses. The swift**
9 **restoration of electric and gas utilities following natural disasters such as**
10 **tropical storms, hurricanes, and floods can minimize the devastating effects of**
11 **such disasters. Therefore, the restoration and rebuilding of electric and gas**
12 **utilities as a result of a natural disaster is hereby recognized to be a valid public**
13 **purpose in the best interests of the citizens and businesses of the state.**

14 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
15 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
16 by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
17 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become

1 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jeffery T. Oglesbee.

DIGEST

Murray (SB 8)

Proposed law acknowledges the importance of restoration and rebuilding of electric and gas utilities following a natural disaster.

Proposed law further recognizes that restoration and rebuilding of electric and gas utilities is a valid public purpose in the best interest of the citizens and businesses of this state.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 45:859)