

First Extraordinary Session, 2005

HOUSE BILL NO. 2

BY REPRESENTATIVES BRUNEAU, PINAC, ALEXANDER, ARNOLD, BALDONE, BEARD, BOWLER, BURNS, CROWE, CURTIS, DARTEZ, DOVE, DOWNS, ERDEY, FAUCHEUX, GEYMAN, GREENE, HILL, HONEY, HUTTER, JOHNS, KATZ, KENNARD, KENNEY, KLECKLEY, LABRUZZO, LAMBERT, LANCASTER, MARTINY, MCVEA, MONTGOMERY, MORRISH, PITRE, M. POWELL, T. POWELL, SCALISE, SCHNEIDER, SMILEY, JANE SMITH, STRAIN, TOOMY, TOWNSEND, TRAHAN, TUCKER, WADDELL, WALSWORTH, WHITE, AND WINSTON AND SENATORS BARHAM, BOASSO, CAIN, DARDENNE, HOLLIS, KOSTELKA, LENTINI, MALONE, MICHOT, MURRAY, QUINN, ROMERO, SCHEDLER, AND THEUNISSEN

UTILITIES: Recognizes restoration and rebuilding of certain utilities as a valid public purpose (Item #64)

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 restoration of  
9 electric and gas utilities following natural disasters such as tropical storms,  
10 hurricanes, and floods can minimize the devastating effects of such disasters.  
11 Therefore, the restoration and rebuilding of electric and gas utilities as a result of a  
12 natural disaster is hereby recognized to be a valid public purpose in the best interests  
13 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

- 1 by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
2 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
3 effective on the day following such approval.
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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

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Bruneau

HB No. 2

**Abstract:** Acknowledges the importance of restoration and rebuilding of electric and gas utilities following a natural disaster and recognizes that such restoration and rebuilding is a valid public purpose.

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 governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 45:859)