

BY SENATOR MURRAY AND REPRESENTATIVE BRUNEAU AND COAUTHORED
BY SENATORS BARHAM, BOASSO, CAIN, DARDENNE, HOLLIS,
KOSTELKA, LENTINI, MALONE, MICHOT, QUINN, ROMERO,
SCHEDLER AND THEUNISSEN AND REPRESENTATIVES PINAC,
ALEXANDER, ARNOLD, BALDONE, BEARD, BOWLER, BURNS,
CROWE, CURTIS, DARTEZ, DOVE, DOWNS, ERDEY, FAUCHEUX,
GEYMANN, 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, THOMPSON, TOOMY, TOWNSEND,
TRAHAN, TUCKER, WADDELL, WALSWORTH, WHITE AND
WINSTON

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AN ACT

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

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

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

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

1 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
2 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
3 by the governor, as provided in Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
4 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
5 effective on the day following such approval.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____