

1 WHEREAS, increasing the number of wells properly plugged and abandoned while
2 a responsible party for the site still exists or has the means to maintain the site may be
3 accomplished through changes in the regulatory structure; and

4 WHEREAS, areas of the regulatory structure that are appropriate for review include
5 the circumstances for exemptions from financial security requirements and for allowing
6 wells to remain unplugged on the basis of the future utility of the well.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
8 urge and request the office of conservation, Department of Natural Resources, to study and
9 review the statutes and department's rules, regulations, and orders providing for the plugging
10 and abandonment of wells in an effort to identify improvements and efficiencies in the
11 regulatory structure, particularly exemptions from financial security requirements and
12 determining the status of future utility wells, to ensure the proper closure of wellsites and
13 ultimately reduce the number of orphan wellsites.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commissioner of conservation, on the basis
15 of the study and review, is hereby requested to initiate rule making or issue any orders
16 necessary to implement such improvements or efficiencies pursuant to current statutory
17 authority and to make recommendations for any necessary statutory changes to the House
18 Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and to the Senate Committee on Natural
19 Resource on or before March 1, 2015.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
21 the commissioner of conservation.

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)]

Johnson

HCR No. 102

Urges and requests the office of conservation, Department of Natural Resources, to study and review the statutes and the department's rules, regulations, and orders providing for the plugging and abandonment of wells.