

BY REPRESENTATIVE GISCLAIR

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request that the office of conservation in the Department of Natural Resources

3 enforce current rules, regulations, and policies or, if necessary, adopt rules,

4 regulations, and policies providing for plugging and abandoning wells so as to

5 prevent subsidence and erosion in the coastal zone.

6 WHEREAS, Louisiana Constitutional Article IX Section 1 requires the natural

7 resources of the state, including air and water, and the healthful, scenic, historic, and esthetic

8 quality of the environment shall be protected, conserved, and replenished insofar as possible

9 and consistent with the health, safety, and welfare of the people; and

10 WHEREAS, R.S. 30:4 authorizes the commissioner of conservation to "require the

11 plugging of each dry and abandoned well and the closure of associated pits, the removal of

12 equipment, structures, and trash, and to otherwise require a general site cleanup" along with

13 the authority to require a reasonable bond for the performance of such requirements; and

14 WHEREAS, the coastal region of Louisiana has been experiencing rapid change for

15 many decades, primarily as a result of coastal land loss to such a degree that the state and

16 its partners have made coastal protection and restoration a priority by funding projects that

17 help to sustain the coastal economy, environment, and infrastructure; and

18 WHEREAS, it is as paramount to the oil and gas industry, as it is to all of the other

19 state's partners, to protect and restore the coast as the coastal wetlands provide protection for

20 the industry's vital infrastructure and support services necessary to supply the nation's energy

21 needs; and



1           WHEREAS, it is necessary to ensure that plugged and abandoned well sites are not  
2     the primary contributing factor in future localized subsidence or erosion and thus prevent an  
3     impediment to coastal restoration and a hazard to critical infrastructure.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
5     urge and request that the office of conservation in the Department of Natural Resources  
6     enforce current rules, regulations, and policies or, if necessary, adopt rules, regulations, and  
7     policies providing for plugging and abandoning wells so as to prevent subsidence and  
8     erosion in the coastal zone.

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
10    to the commissioner of conservation.

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#### 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)]

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Gisclair

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