

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 25

BY REPRESENTATIVE ORGERON

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Public Service Commission to investigate the benefits, feasibility, costs, and pathways to achieving a demonstrable offshore wind energy pilot project by 2026.

WHEREAS, the experience and infrastructure of Louisiana's oil and gas industry are uniquely positioned to transition into the offshore wind industry; and

WHEREAS, foundations for the country's first offshore wind farm, Block Island, were designed by Keystone Engineering of Metairie and fabricated by Gulf Island Fabrication of Houma; and

WHEREAS, the first Jones Act-qualified wind farm service operations vessel, the Eco Edison, is being built by Edison Chouest Offshore, headquartered in Cut Off, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the ports and shipyards of Louisiana are ideally located and equipped to handle the large component parts required for wind facility installation and power production; and

WHEREAS, LM Wind Power's Technology Center Americas facility, located in New Orleans, serves as a research and innovation hub for the wind industry; and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory determined that Louisiana has the fourth highest offshore wind energy potential of any state in the nation; and

WHEREAS, a single, six hundred megawatt offshore wind project has the potential to create four thousand four hundred seventy jobs and four hundred forty-five million dollars in gross domestic product during construction, as well as an additional one hundred fifty full-time jobs and fourteen million dollars annually during ongoing operations; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has already begun to position the state as a hub for the production of green hydrogen which could be supported by the use of offshore wind energy; and

WHEREAS, developing Louisiana's offshore wind industry presents a potential new source of state and local revenue as well as workforce and economic development opportunities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Public Service Commission to investigate the benefits, feasibility, costs, and pathways to achieving demonstrable offshore wind energy development by 2026.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive secretary of the Louisiana Public Service Commission.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES