AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 30:86(A), (C), and the introductory paragraph of (E), and to enact R.S. 30:86(D)(9) and (10) and (E)(7), relative to the Louisiana Oilfield Site Restoration Fund; to provide for the deposit of monies from the state's allocation of federal monies to the fund; to provide for the sources and uses of the Oilfield Site Restoration Fund; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1.  R.S. 30:86(A), (C), and the introductory paragraph of (E) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 30:86(D)(9) and(10) and (E)(7) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§86. Oilfield Site Restoration Fund

A. (1) There is hereby established a fund in the custody of the state treasurer to be known as the Oilfield Site Restoration Fund, hereafter referred to as the "fund", into which the state treasurer shall, each fiscal year, deposit the revenues received from the collection of the monies enumerated in Subsection D of this Section, after those revenues have been deposited in the Bond Security and Redemption Fund.

(2) Out of the funds remaining in the Bond Security and Redemption Fund, after a sufficient amount is allocated from that fund to pay all the obligations secured by the full faith and credit of the state that become due and payable within each fiscal year, the treasurer shall pay into the Oilfield Site Restoration Trust Fund an amount equal to the revenues generated from collection of the fees provided for in Subsection D of this Section. The treasurer shall also transfer into the Oilfield Site Restoration Fund the amount of thirty million dollars in federal funding from the first federal funds received by the state for which oilfield site
restoration or plugging orphan wells is an allowable use, as determined by the

Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. Such funds shall constitute a special
custodial trust fund which shall be administered by the secretary, who shall make
disbursements from the fund solely in accordance with the purposes and uses
authorized by this Part.

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C. The treasurer of the state of Louisiana shall certify, to the secretary of the
Department of Revenue, the date on which the balance in the fund equals or exceeds
fourteen million dollars. The oilfield site restoration fees on oil and gas provided for
in R.S. 30:87 shall not be collected or required to be paid on or after the first day of
the second month following the certification, except that the secretary of the
Department of Revenue shall resume collecting the fees on receipt of a certification
from the treasurer that, based on the expenditures or commitments to expend monies,
the fund has fallen below ten million dollars. The secretary of the Department of
Revenue shall continue collecting the fees until collections are again suspended in
the manner provided by this Section. The sums in the site-specific trust accounts
within the fund, the sums collected from financial security instruments required by
rules and regulations adopted by the assistant secretary pursuant to R.S. 30:4(R) and
4.3, sums deposited pursuant to Paragraph (D)(9) of this Section, any sums
deposited from federal appropriations, or any federal grant program
established by the United States Congress for the purpose of restoring orphan
oilfield sites, and sums generated from the issuance of bonds pursuant to R.S.
30:83.1 shall not be counted to determine the balance of the fund for the purposes of
this Subsection.

D. The following monies shall be placed into the Oilfield Site Restoration
Fund:

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(9) The sum of thirty million dollars from the first federal funds received
by the state for which oilfield site restoration or plugging orphan wells is an
allowable use, as determined by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.
(10) Monies from federal appropriations or any federal grant program established by the United States Congress for the purpose of restoring orphan oilfield sites.

E. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the monies in the fund may be disbursed and expended pursuant to the authority and direction of the secretary or assistant secretary for the following purposes and uses:

* * *

(7) Except for the costs of administration of this Part by the Department of Natural Resources not exceeding five percent of the federal funds appropriated or granted, the monies deposited into the fund pursuant to Paragraph (D)(9) of this Section, any other monies deposited from federal appropriations, or from federal grant programs authorized by the United States Congress for the purpose of restoring orphan oilfield sites, shall be used only for the purposes of assessing and restoring orphan oilfield sites. Notwithstanding any other requirements in this Part, such monies may be expended by the secretary through a contract entered into under any competitive process authorized by Title 38 or Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950. The contract may be awarded to any qualified party regardless as to whether or not such party has been approved to be on the list of contractors acceptable to conduct site assessment and restoration by the Commission.

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Section 2. The legislature does hereby find that the oil and gas industry was negatively impacted by the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and the related decrease in demand for oil and gas, which led to severe decreases in the price of oil and gas worldwide and thereby led to the layoff of many workers in the oil and gas industry. State contracts for the restoration of orphan oilfield sites through federal funding is intended to create work for oil and gas workers as well as industry. It is the intent of the legislature that such work and expenditures of this funding shall provide aid to the oil and gas industry as an industry impacted by COVID-19 as required by Section 602(c)(1)(A) of the Social Security Act as amended by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.
Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not 
signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature 
by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If 
vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become 
effective on the day following such approval.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: ____________

Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.