
DIGEST

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HB 165 Engrossed

2022 Regular Session

Zeringue

Abstract: Establishes a maximum acreage for wind leases and provides for operating agreements for the production of wind energy.

Present law sets the maximum acreage for oil and gas leases at 5,000 acres. Proposed law retains present law and provides for leases for wind energy and sets the maximum acreage for such at 25,000 acres.

Present law authorizes the State Mineral and Energy Board (board) to enter into operating agreements whereby the state receives a share of revenues from the production of oil, gas, and other minerals. Proposed law retains present law and adds wind energy as a source of energy whereby the board may enter into operating agreements for the state to receive a share of revenues.

Present law requires a minimum dollar amount set and a minimum percentage of revenue to be produced by each wind turbine prior to the advertisement for bids for each lease. Further requires approval of these minimum amounts by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources prior to advertisement. Proposed law removes these requirements and solely grants the board the authority to accept the bid it finds is most advantageous to the state.

(Amends R.S. 30:127(E) and 209(4)(a)(intro. para.) and R.S. 41:1733(D))