

BY REPRESENTATIVES MIKE JOHNSON AND DESHOTEL

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Public Service Commission and Cleco Power to approve

3 the sale of a regulated utility only in certain circumstances.

4 WHEREAS, Cleco Power, the primary subsidiary of Cleco Corporate Holdings LLC,

5 is a regional holding company headquartered in Pineville, Louisiana, has been in business

6 since 1935, and has approximately twelve hundred employees; and

7 WHEREAS, Cleco, otherwise known as Central Louisiana Electric Company, has

8 a long and significant history in central Louisiana, dating back to the early twentieth century;

9 and

10 WHEREAS before becoming Central Louisiana Electric Company, with its original

11 roots in the ice business, the company was originally the Louisiana Ice & Electric Company,

12 founded in 1906 in Bunkie, Louisiana; and

13 WHEREAS, when Cleco was officially established in 1935 as Central Louisiana

14 Electric Company Inc., with headquarters located in Pineville, Louisiana, it emerged during

15 a time when rural electrification was still developing and many parts of central Louisiana

16 lacked reliable power; and

17 WHEREAS, the company began by providing electricity to a small number of

18 customers, expanding its reach through acquisitions and infrastructure development; and

19 WHEREAS, Cleco Power currently serves approximately two hundred ninety-five

20 thousand customers in twenty-four parishes in Louisiana; and

21 WHEREAS, Cleco Power is one of the largest employers in Rapides Parish; and

1 WHEREAS, it is being reported that Cleco Power is entertaining offers to sell the
2 company; and

3 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Public Service Commission (commission) is a
4 constitutionally created regulatory agency and consists of five commissioners; and

5 WHEREAS, the commission has the jurisdiction to authorize the sale of a regulated
6 utility under Article IV, Section 21(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, the approval of certain transactions is required pursuant to the
8 commission's 1994 General Order regarding transfers of ownership or control of the
9 commission's jurisdictional utilities; and

10 WHEREAS, in the 1994 General Order, the commission established eighteen factors
11 to be considered when determining whether to approve the transfer of ownership or control
12 of utilities and common carriers subject to the commission's jurisdiction; and

13 WHEREAS, one of the factors considered when approving the change of ownership
14 or control of a regulated utility includes, "Whether the transfer will be fair and reasonable
15 to the affected public utility or common carrier employees?"; and

16 WHEREAS, any sale that would reduce the jobs of central Louisiana residents would
17 negatively impact the employees, economics, and entire population of central Louisiana.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
19 urge and request the Public Service Commission to protect the jobs of central Louisiana
20 employees and to only approve any sale, trade, or transaction transferring ownership of
21 Cleco Power to any other entity if and only if there are adequate guarantees and safeguards
22 that preserve the more than four hundred fifty nonservice jobs and one hundred percent of
23 all service jobs currently located at headquarters in Pineville, Louisiana.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge
25 and request the authorized parties to only approve a sale, trade, or transaction transferring
26 ownership of Cleco Power to any other entity if and only if the more than four hundred fifty
27 nonservice jobs and one hundred percent of all service jobs are retained at the headquarters
28 located in Pineville, Louisiana, and that the jobs of employees of central Louisiana be
29 maintained at their current level.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
2 Louisiana Public Service Commission and to Bill Fontenot, CEO and president of Cleco
3 Power.

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)]

HCR 11 Engrossed	2025 Regular Session	Mike Johnson
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Urges and requests the La. Public Service Commission and Cleco Power to approve the sale of a regulated utility only in certain circumstances.