

1 WHEREAS, geothermal energy is a firm, always-on domestic energy resource that
2 operates at approximately ninety percent capacity factor, is unaffected by weather, and
3 delivers energy at predictable long-run cost; and

4 WHEREAS, Louisiana's industrial sector is among the most energy-intensive in the
5 nation, and geothermal process heat can serve as an additional energy source for
6 petrochemical, refining, and fertilizer operations that are among the largest contributors to
7 the state's economy; and

8 WHEREAS, Louisiana's Gulf Coast climate creates substantial year-round cooling
9 demand, and geothermal-driven cooling systems can reduce peak electricity load rather than
10 adding to it, lowering costs for ratepayers and industry alike; and

11 WHEREAS, geothermal energy's largely subsurface infrastructure has demonstrated
12 resilience to the hurricanes and severe weather events that have historically disrupted
13 Louisiana's energy supply; and

14 WHEREAS, growing electricity demand from data centers, liquefied natural gas
15 terminals, and industrial expansion creates an urgent need for firm, reliable power that
16 geothermal is well-positioned to supply; and

17 WHEREAS, expanding domestic energy production across all firm resources
18 strengthens national energy security, increases American energy dominance, and reduces
19 dependence on foreign sources of supply; and

20 WHEREAS, Louisiana R.S. 30:800 already declares that state policy favors the rapid
21 and orderly development of geothermal resources, but existing legal definitions and property
22 frameworks do not fully reflect the technologies and applications now commercially
23 available.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
25 Legislature of Louisiana recognizes geothermal energy development as consistent with
26 Louisiana's existing subsurface expertise and infrastructure; recognizes that geothermal
27 energy development can create workforce opportunity, strengthen grid reliability, and
28 contribute to the state's energy economy; and commits to building the enabling framework
29 necessary to bring that opportunity to scale.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature
2 of Louisiana finds that geothermal energy represents a significant economic and energy
3 security opportunity for the state and urges relevant agencies to build off of and incorporate
4 forthcoming research on Louisiana's geothermal potential into a concrete policy path that
5 addresses the legal, regulatory, and permitting barriers that currently prevent the state from
6 capturing that opportunity.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is the policy of the state of Louisiana to pursue
8 the legal and regulatory conditions necessary to make geothermal electricity, industrial heat,
9 and cooling projects permittable, financeable, and replicable across the state.

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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Orgeron

Recognizes geothermal energy as a strategic opportunity for La. and commits to building the conditions necessary to scale the state's geothermal resources.