



1           WHEREAS, understanding the geologic structures, fault systems, subsurface  
2 conditions, and potential human influences associated with seismic activity are essential to  
3 assessing risks and protecting public safety; and

4           WHEREAS, the precise causes, frequency, distribution, and magnitude of seismic  
5 events in Northwest Louisiana and elsewhere in the state have not been fully studied or  
6 documented through a comprehensive scientific investigation; and

7           WHEREAS, cooperation between state and federal scientific agencies would  
8 expedite a determination of causes and characteristics and aid in developing  
9 recommendations for the future.

10           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
11 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby establish and provide for the Task Force on Seismic  
12 Activity to study the prevalence and cause of earthquakes in North Louisiana, and may  
13 propose recommendations, together with specific proposals for legislation. Any  
14 recommendations or proposals shall be submitted by written report to the legislature and to  
15 the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library as required by R.S. 24:772.

16           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall consist of the following  
17 members:

18           (1) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Conservation and Energy or his  
19 designee, who shall serve as the chairman.

20           (2) The associate director of the United States Geological Survey, natural hazards  
21 or his designee, who shall serve as an ex officio member.

22           (3) The dean of Tulane University, school of science and engineering, or his  
23 designee.

24           (4) The director of the Red River Office of Homeland Security and Emergency  
25 Preparedness, or his designee.

26           (5) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, or his  
27 designee.

28           (6) The president of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, or his designee.

29           (7) The acting director of the Louisiana Geological Survey, Louisiana State  
30 University, or his designee.

1 (8) A representative of the oil and gas industry, appointed by the governor.

2 (9) A representative of an industrial waste injection facility, appointed by the  
3 governor.

4 (10) A representative of a carbon capture and underground storage facility,  
5 appointed by the governor.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each designating authority shall submit the  
7 names of any designees to the task force to the representative from the Department of  
8 Conservation and Energy no later than August 15, 2026.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the representative of the Department of  
10 Conservation and Energy shall serve as chairman of the task force.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall convene its first meeting no  
12 later than September 1, 2026.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be staffed by the Department  
14 of Conservation and Energy.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a majority of the task force shall constitute a  
16 quorum for the transaction of business and all official actions of the task force shall require  
17 the affirmative vote of a majority of the members.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Rules of Order of the House of  
19 Representatives or applicable Joint Rules shall apply to all meetings of the task force.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve  
21 without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be  
22 individually entitled as members of their constituent organizations.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that meetings of the task force shall be subject to the  
24 Open Meetings Law, R.S. 42:11 et seq., and records of the task force shall be subject to the  
25 Public Records Law, R.S. 44:1 et seq.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report of the Earthquake Task Force shall  
27 be presented at a duly noticed public meeting, which shall be held in Northwest Louisiana  
28 no later than March 1, 2027.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
30 governor of Louisiana, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Conservation and

1 Energy, the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, the associate  
2 director for natural hazards of the United States Geological Survey, the director of the  
3 United States Geological Survey, the Dean of the School of Science and Engineering at  
4 Tulane University, the director of the Red River Office of Homeland Security and  
5 Emergency Preparedness, the president of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, and the acting  
6 director of the Louisiana Geological Survey at Louisiana State University.

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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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HR 345 Original

2026 Regular Session

Schamerhorn

Creates the Task Force on Seismic Activity to study the prevalence and cause of earthquakes in North La., to propose written recommendations to the legislature, and to present its findings to the public at a duly noticed public meeting by March 1, 2027.