

---

## 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)]

---

Reynolds

HB No. 1204

**Abstract:** Authorizes increased well density within drilling units of stratigraphic zones in the Haynesville Shale.

Present law authorizes the commissioner of conservation to establish drilling units to prevent waste and avoid drilling unnecessary wells. A drilling unit is the maximum area which may be efficiently and economically drained by one well. A unit shall constitute a developed area as long as the unit well is capable of producing in paying quantities. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires the commissioner to approve an increased well density within a unit established for stratigraphic zones which comprise the Haynesville Shale upon application by any working interest owner and the commissioner finding, after notice and a public hearing, that the geological, engineering, and other relevant evidence establishes that the developed area cannot be efficiently and economically drained by the current unit well or wells.

Proposed law requires the commissioner to issue a permit to drill an alternate unit well to a successful applicant upon the election of the current unit operator not to participate pursuant to present law or otherwise, and in compliance with present law and applicable rules and regulations.

(Amends R.S. 30:9(B))