

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBBY CARTER

WHEREAS, the system of natural and scenic rivers is administered for the purpose of preserving aesthetic, scenic, recreational, fish, wildlife, ecological, archaeological, geological, botanical, and other natural and physical features and resources found along these streams or segments thereof; and

1 WHEREAS, Louisiana has the largest natural and scenic stream system in the nation
2 including more than eighty rivers or river segments; and

3 WHEREAS, beginning in the latter half of the last decade this state experienced an
4 oil and gas exploration and production boom with the economic viability of using hydraulic
5 fracturing stimulation operations to produce hydrocarbons from formations such as the
6 Haynesville Shale and the Tuscaloosa Marine Shale; and

7 WHEREAS, while this boom brought welcomed economic prosperity for workers,
8 property owners, and the state, it also brought the need for massive amounts of water for
9 these thirsty operations; and

10 WHEREAS, the United States Geological Survey estimates an average Haynesville
11 Shale well requires five million seven hundred thousand gallons of water; and

12 WHEREAS, there has been occasion where operators of hydraulic fracturing
13 stimulations operations obtained the required water from a river or river segment designated
14 as a natural and scenic river.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 urge and request the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, in cooperation with the
17 Department of Natural Resources, to study the effects of withdrawals for oil and gas
18 operations from rivers and river segments in the natural and scenic river program and to
19 report the findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the
20 Senate Committee on Natural Resources on or before March 1, 2017.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
22 to the secretaries of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Department of Natural
23 Resources.

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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Urges and requests the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries, in cooperation with the Dept. of Natural Resources, to study the effects of withdrawals for oil and gas operations from rivers and river segments in the natural and scenic river program and to report the findings to the oversight committees on or before March 1, 2017.