

1 over the age of sixty, ninety-six thousand are children under the age of six, and one hundred
2 and fifty-four thousand are handicapped individuals, including disabled veterans; and

3 WHEREAS, for a Louisiana family of four to be eligible for LIHEAP, the family
4 must earn no more than twenty-seven dollars per day, per capita; and

5 WHEREAS, although nearly a half-million Louisiana households meet LIHEAP's
6 federal income criteria, only a small fraction of eligible households are actually helped due
7 to already limited federal funding; and

8 WHEREAS, Louisiana's ability to reach at-risk families through LIHEAP is entirely
9 dependent upon the provision of adequate funding from Congress; and

10 WHEREAS, home energy assistance is particularly important in Louisiana due to
11 intermittent intense heat and humidity, which is especially threatening to the elderly,
12 disabled, and young citizens; and

13 WHEREAS, if the program's core block grants were reduced as proposed,
14 Louisianians would be disproportionately affected, because the national program would be
15 statutorily precluded from considering current population, poverty, and energy price data and
16 mirroring outdated needs of twenty-five years ago; and

17 WHEREAS, unless Congress sustains LIHEAP, Louisiana's most vulnerable citizens
18 will be placed at an unnecessarily greater risk.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Legislature hereby declares
20 June, 2011 to be "Save LIHEAP Month" and encourages public and private citizens to join
21 in by encouraging their respective congressional delegation to sustain this vital program at
22 its long-standing national appropriation of five point one billion dollars during federal Fiscal
23 Year 2012.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby
25 memorializes the Congress of the United States to sustain home energy assistance for at-risk
26 Louisianians and to declare June 2011 as "Save LIHEAP" Month.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be transmitted
28 to the secretary of the United States Senate and the clerk of the United States House of
29 Representatives and to each member of the Louisiana delegation to the United States
30 Congress.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Broussard-Johnson.

DIGEST

Broome

SCR No.

Memorializes Congress to sustain home energy assistance for at-risk Louisianians and declares June 2011 as "Save LIHEAP Month."