### Regular Session, 2010

### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 126

### BY REPRESENTATIVE ANDERS

# AGRICULTURE: Encourages state, parish, and local governments to purchase conservation easements from owners of quality agriculture and forestry land

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To encourage state, parish, and local governments to purchase conservation easements from
3	owners of quality agriculture and forestry lands.
4	WHEREAS, an agricultural and forestry conservation easement is an interest in land
5	which represents the right to prevent development or improvement of a parcel for any
6	purpose other than agricultural and forestry production; and
7	WHEREAS, this program is to preserve the state's agricultural and forestry land base
8	by helping to ensure the continued viability of Louisiana's agricultural and forestry industry;
9	and
10	WHEREAS, these preserved lands contribute not only to a secure land base for
11	agricultural and forestry operations but also to a host of other quality of life benefits that
12	accrue at the local, parish, and state level; and
13	WHEREAS, the agricultural and forestry conservation easement may be granted by
14	an agriculture and forestry land owner to a state, parish, or local government agricultural and
15	forestry land preservation program; and
16	WHEREAS, the preservation of agriculture and forestry lands make good economic
17	sense on many levels; and
18	WHEREAS, it helps preserve the state's agricultural and forestry industry,
19	contributes to the local tax roll, and generates tax revenue; and
20	WHEREAS, because Louisiana continues to experience a strong market, there exists
21	an ever-increasing pressure to convert farmland to development throughout the state; and

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## WHEREAS, this is causing the rapid escalation of easement values throughout Louisiana; and WHEREAS, the rapid escalation in easement values means that fewer agriculture and

- 4 forestry land acres can be preserved with the same amount of program funding; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the establishment of the Agriculture and Forestry Conservation 6 Easement Fund seeks to preserve as much land as possible in as short a time frame as 7 achievable to maximize the preservation of land into the future.
- 8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
- 9 encourage state, parish, and local governments to purchase conservation easements from
- 10 owners of quality agriculture and forestry lands in Louisiana.
- 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
- 12 commissioner of administration, the Police Jury Association, and the Louisiana Municipal
- 13 Association.

### 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)]

### Anders

### HCR No. 126

Encourages state, parish, and local governments to purchase conservation easements from owners of quality agriculture and forestry land.