

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 167

BY REPRESENTATIVE PONTI

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Natural Resources, in conjunction with the Public Service Commission, to adopt rules and regulations to ensure high levels of energy security in critical government facilities through implementation of on-site combined heat and power systems.

WHEREAS, government buildings or facilities, including but not limited to command and control centers, hospitals, shelters, prisons, jails, police and fire stations, communications centers, data centers, water and wastewater facilities, hazardous waste storage facilities, biological research facilities, food preparation and food storage facilities, and institutions of higher education represent critical government facilities; and

WHEREAS, these critical government facilities serve a critical function related to public health or safety during natural disasters and other emergency situations resulting in widespread outages of the electrical grid; and

WHEREAS, critical government facilities may be anticipated to be occupied on a twenty-four-hour-per-day basis, maintain operations in excess of six thousand hours per year, and have a peak electricity demand exceeding five hundred kilowatts; and

WHEREAS, critical government facilities would greatly benefit from combined heat and power systems, which is a technology that is located on the site of the facility, continuously provides electricity and thermal energy used by the facility, can provide one hundred percent of the facility's critical electricity needs required to sustain emergency operations for a minimum of fourteen days and provides an overall efficiency of energy use in excess of sixty percent; and

WHEREAS, when constructing or extensively renovating a critical governmental facility or replacing major heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning equipment for a critical governmental facility, the entity with charge and control of the facility would benefit in

terms of energy efficiency and operating costs by evaluating whether equipping the facility with a combined heating and power system would result in expected energy savings that would exceed the expected costs of purchasing, operating, and maintaining the system over a twenty-year period.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Natural Resources, in conjunction with the Public Service Commission, to adopt rules and regulations to establish guidelines for equipping critical government facilities with a combined heating and power system if the expected energy savings exceed the expected costs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES