

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 61

BY SENATOR HENSGENS

A RESOLUTION

To designate Monday, May 8, 2023, as Louisiana Renewable Energy Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

WHEREAS, Louisiana boasts impressive supplies of onshore and offshore energy resources; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's natural resources have provided thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic development; and

WHEREAS, according to the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Louisiana's rich history and expertise in energy development will pave the way for new emerging industries; and

WHEREAS, solar energy has become increasingly affordable and efficient in recent years, and can provide significant economic and environmental benefits to our state; and

WHEREAS, according to the Solar Energy Industries Association, Louisiana's solar energy resources are expected to grow by more than ten-fold over the next few years; and

WHEREAS, solar growth in Louisiana could bring over four billion dollars in economic development and over four thousand construction jobs; and

WHEREAS, wind energy is an abundant and growing source of renewable energy that can create jobs and economic opportunities in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management is anticipated to lease over one hundred thousand acres of offshore area for renewable energy development near Lake Charles which could power over four hundred thirty-five thousand homes; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana's maritime and oil and gas industries were instrumental in building the United States' first offshore wind farm; and

WHEREAS, battery storage technology is improving rapidly and can play a critical role in integrating renewable energy sources into our electric grid and creating new jobs in the energy sector; and

WHEREAS, hydrogen is a versatile energy carrier that can be produced from renewable sources and used in a variety of applications, including transportation and

industrial processes, creating new economic opportunities in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the potential for growth in the clean hydrogen sector is anticipated to be significant in Louisiana due to the state's existing infrastructure and expertise, and development of the Hydrogen Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma (HALO) Hydrogen Hub; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of new power plant facilities proposed in Louisiana are renewable energy projects across fifty parishes; and

WHEREAS, the development of renewable energy and clean energy jobs can create good-paying jobs and support local economies in Louisiana, particularly in rural and coastal areas that have been hard hit by economic challenges; and

WHEREAS, supporting renewable energy and clean energy jobs can help diversify our state's economy and position Louisiana as a leader in the transition to a clean energy future; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper for the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to recognize Louisiana Renewable Energy Day.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Monday, May 8, 2023, as Louisiana Renewable Energy Day at the Louisiana State Capitol.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE