

1 WHEREAS, electric utilities are required to maintain specific clearances between
2 their overhead electrical wires and the ground below them including roadways, driveways,
3 parking lots, railroad tracks, and other services that may be found underneath wires; and

4 WHEREAS, in order to ensure that the required clearances are maintained after
5 initial installation, a considerable amount of the NESC is devoted to strength and structural
6 integrity issues; and

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Public Service Commission is empowered by Article IV,
8 Section 21(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana to regulate public utilities; and

9 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Public Service Commission has jurisdiction over publicly
10 owned utilities providing electric, water, waste water, natural gas, and telecommunications
11 services; and

12 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Public Service Commission is charged with ensuring a
13 regulatory balance that enables utilities to provide customers with safe, adequate, and
14 reliable services, at rates that are just, reasonable, equitable, and economically efficient; and

15 WHEREAS, in addition to the regulation provided by the Louisiana Public Service
16 Commission relative to electricity and other services, the commission is also in a unique
17 position to harmoniously interact with other regulatory agencies and local municipalities
18 which also provide oversight and enforcement in these areas; and

19 WHEREAS, the failure of a utility pole can cause a serious interruption of the
20 delivery of vital public utilities to the citizens of Louisiana; and

21 WHEREAS, an adequate, reliable, and reasonably priced supply of electricity and
22 other public utilities is essential to the continued economic prosperity of the state and its
23 citizens; and

24 WHEREAS, while the Louisiana Public Service Commission has not formally
25 adopted the National Electrical Safety Code, all electric utilities in Louisiana abide by the
26 NESC; and

27 WHEREAS, additionally, the staff of the Louisiana Public Service Commission uses
28 the NESC in investigations, when necessary.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
30 urge and request the Louisiana Public Service Commission to study and report on the

1 feasibility of adopting the National Electrical Safety Code for the installation, operation, and
2 maintenance of overhead and underground electrical facilities.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Public Service Commission shall
4 report its findings to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on
5 Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs prior to the final adjournment
6 of the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
8 Louisiana Public Service Commission.

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)]

Templet

HCR No. 163

Urges and requests the La. Public Service Commission to study and report on the feasibility of adopting the National Electrical Safety Code for the installation, operation, and maintenance of overhead and underground electrical facilities.

Requires the La. Public Service Commission to report its findings to the House Committee on Commerce and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs prior to the final adjournment of the 2011 R.S. of the Legislature.