

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 314

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBBY CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Conservation and Energy to study the need for enactment of gravel surface mining reclamation and conservation laws and to submit a written report of its findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment prior to the convening of the 2027 Regular Session of the Legislature.

WHEREAS, Louisiana has enacted a comprehensive policy for the reclamation and conservation of areas impacted by the mining of lignite and other forms of coal; and

WHEREAS, proper reclamation of surface mined lands is necessary to prevent unreasonable degradation of land and water resources that would be detrimental to the general welfare, health, safety, and property rights of the citizens of this state; and

WHEREAS, regulation of the surface mining of gravel is in the public interest and will benefit the public health, safety, welfare, and economy of the state of Louisiana, including preventing the destruction or diminishment of the utility of land for commercial, industrial, residential, recreational, agricultural, and forestry purposes by preventing unreasonable erosion, landslides, floods, water pollution, destruction of fish and wildlife habitat and impairment of natural beauty, and will benefit governmental programs and efforts to conserve soil, water, and other natural resources.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Conservation and Energy to study the enactment of gravel surface mining reclamation and conservation laws and to submit a written report of its findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment prior to the convening of the 2027 Regular Session of the Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the study should consider the need for a statutory process for identifying planned post-mining land use, removal of equipment and facilities, grading or filling the site, and revegetation of the area as well as the need for setbacks from residential areas, roads, and rivers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Conservation and Energy.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES