

2023 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 22

BY SENATOR WOMACK

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

CONSERVATION. Provides relative to soil conservation policy. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 3:1251 and to repeal R.S. 3:1252, 1253, 1254, and 1255, relative to soil conservation policy; to repeal provisions requiring Louisiana State University to administer federal soil conservation policy; to remove inactive programs; to provide for technical changes; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 3:1251 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§1251. Adoption of federal soil conservation policy

A. It is hereby recognized and declared, as a matter of legislative determination that the public welfare of this state requires the cooperation of this state with other states and with the federal government in the accomplishment of the policy declared by the Congress of the United States in the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, and particularly in Section 7(a) thereof, ~~to-wit~~ **including**:

- (1) preservation and improvement of soil fertility;
- (2) promotion of the economic use and conservation of land;
- (3) diminution of exploitation and wasteful and unscientific use of national soil resources;

1 (4) the protection of rivers and harbors against the result of soil erosion in
2 aid of maintaining the navigability of waters and water courses and in aid of flood
3 control: ~~and.~~

4 (5) ~~re-establishment, at as rapid a rate as the Secretary of Agriculture~~
5 ~~determines to be practicable and in the general public interest, of the ratio between~~
6 ~~the purchasing power of the net income per person on farms and that of the income~~
7 ~~per person not on farms that prevailed during the five-year period August 1909--July~~
8 ~~1914, inclusive, as determined from statistics available in the United States~~
9 ~~Department of Agriculture and the maintenance of such ratio. The powers conferred~~
10 ~~under Sections 7 to 14, inclusive, of this Act shall be used to assist voluntary action~~
11 ~~calculated to effectuate the purposes specified in this section. Such powers shall not~~
12 ~~be used to discourage the production of supplies of foods and fibers sufficient to~~
13 ~~maintain normal domestic human consumption as determined by the Secretary from~~
14 ~~the records of domestic human consumption in the years 1920 to 1929, inclusive,~~
15 ~~taking into consideration increased population, quantities of any commodity that~~
16 ~~were forced into domestic consumption by decline in exports during such period,~~
17 ~~current trend in domestic consumption and exports of particular commodities, and~~
18 ~~the quantities of substitutes available for domestic consumption within any general~~
19 ~~class of food commodities. In carrying out the purpose of this section due regard~~
20 ~~shall be given to the maintenance of a continuous and stable supply of agricultural~~
21 ~~commodities adequate to meet consumer demand at prices fair to both producers and~~
22 ~~consumers.~~

23 **B.** The Legislature of the State of Louisiana therefore accepts the provisions
24 and requirements of the said Act, and adopts the policy thereof as the policy of the
25 State of Louisiana and the purposes thereof as the purposes of this Part.

26 Section 2. R.S. 3:1252, 1253, 1254, and 1255 are hereby repealed in their entirety.

27 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
28 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
29 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
2 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Curry Lann.

DIGEST

SB 22 Original 2023 Regular Session Womack

Present law provides that it is the legislative intent of the state to accept, adopt, and cooperate with other states and the federal government to accomplish the policies of the federal Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, including:

- (1) preservation and improvement of soil fertility.
- (2) promotion of the economic use and conservation of land.
- (3) diminution of exploitation and wasteful and unscientific use of national soil resources.
- (4) the protection of rivers and harbors against the result of soil erosion in aid of maintaining the navigability of waters and water courses and in aid of flood control.
- (5) re-establishment of the ratio between the purchasing power of the net income per person on farms and that of the income per person not on farms that prevailed during the five-year period August 1909-July 1914.

Proposed law removes outdated provisions relative to the re-establishment of the ratio between the purchasing power of the net income per person on farms and that of the income per person not on farms and otherwise retains present law.

Present law designates the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University as the state agency responsible for carrying out federal soil conservation policy.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law directs Louisiana State University to formulate an annual soil conservation plan and submit to the Secretary of Agriculture.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law authorizes Louisiana State University to accept and receive all grants of money made pursuant to federal law for expenditures necessary in carrying out the soil conservation plan.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law authorizes Louisiana State University to designate agencies it may deem necessary and provide for research and educational activities in connection with the formulation and operation of the soil conservation plan.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 3:1251; repeals R.S. 3:1252, 1253, 1254, and 1255)