

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 503 (Substitute of Senate Bill No. 275 by Senator Lambert)

BY SENATOR LAMBERT

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL. Provides for air monitoring. (gov sig)

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AN ACT

To enact Chapter 16-A of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 30:2383.1 through 2383.11, relative to air monitoring; to provide for creation of the community air monitoring; to provide for a purpose; to provide for standards for community air monitoring programs; to provide for data collection; to provide for applicability; to provide for definitions; to provide for program requirements; to provide for data communication; to provide for prohibited uses of data; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. Chapter 16-A of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 30:2383.1 through 2383.11, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

**CHAPTER 16-A LOUISIANA COMMUNITY AIR**

**MONITORING RELIABILITY**

**§2383.1. Short title**

**This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Louisiana Community Air Monitoring Reliability Act.**

**§2383.2. Purpose**

1           The purpose of this Chapter is to establish state standards for  
2           community air monitoring programs operated by entities to ensure that the  
3           data collected from such programs provides the public with access to accurate  
4           air quality information.

5           §2383.3. Applicability

6           This Chapter shall apply to entities that have implemented community  
7           air monitoring programs as defined in this Chapter.

8           §2383.4. Definitions

9           As used in this Chapter, unless the context indicates otherwise, the  
10           following terms have the following meanings:

11           (1) "Ambient air" means that portion of the atmosphere, external to  
12           buildings, to which the general public has access as defined in 40 CFR 50.1.

13           (2) "Community air monitoring programs" means measurement  
14           systems, testing equipment, tools, and processes of ambient air used or  
15           developed for the purpose of collecting air emissions data and measuring or  
16           recording air pollutant concentrations by entities that received public funds or  
17           use private funds. Such shall include both one-time monitoring events as well  
18           as multi-sampling events. Monitoring performed by "reporting entities" as  
19           defined in this Section for any purpose, including as required under judicial or  
20           administrative action, are excluded from this definition and shall be subject to  
21           the requirements of the applicable statutes, rules, judicial action, or  
22           administrative action governing monitoring by reporting entities.

23           (3) "Criteria air pollutants" include those air pollutants for which  
24           NAAQS have been established under Section 109 of the federal Clean Air Act,  
25           42 U.S.C. 7409, including ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, lead,  
26           sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide.

27           (4) "Department" means the Louisiana Department of Environmental  
28           Quality.

29           (5) "Environmental Protection Agency" or "EPA" means the United

1 States Environmental Protection Agency.

2 (6) "Hazardous air pollutant" means a hazardous air pollutant as such  
3 term is defined in Section 112(a) of the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7412.

4 (7) "Toxic air pollutants" means the term as defined in LAC 33:5103.

5 (8) "National Ambient Air Quality Standards" or "NAAQS" means the  
6 national ambient air quality standards established under Section 109 of the  
7 federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7409.

8 (9) "Public funds" means any money that has been awarded, granted,  
9 distributed, or otherwise provided by federal, state, tribal, or local  
10 governments, departments, agencies, and instrumentalities.

11 (10) "Private funds" means any money other than "public funds".

12 (11) "Reporting entities" means any organization, group, company,  
13 owner, or operator of a stationary source developing or administering an air  
14 monitoring program.

15 (12) "Stationary source" means a stationary source as such term is  
16 defined in Section 112(a) of the federal Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. 7412(a).

17 §2383.5. Community air monitoring program requirements

18 A. Community air monitoring programs which seek to conduct  
19 monitoring of criteria air pollutants for the purpose of alleging violations or  
20 noncompliance with the federal Clean Air Act, Louisiana Environmental  
21 Quality Act, or any other applicable law, rule, or regulation for which the state  
22 has primary enforcement authority shall use the science-based standards set  
23 forth in 40 CFR Part 50, including the NAAQS.

24 B. Community air monitoring programs which seek to conduct  
25 monitoring of hazardous air pollutant or toxic air pollutant emissions for the  
26 purpose of alleging violations or noncompliance with the federal Clean Air Act,  
27 Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, or any other applicable law, rule, or  
28 regulation for which the state has primary enforcement authority shall use the  
29 most current Environmental Protection Agency-approved or promulgated

1 emission test or monitoring method, or the most current and best available  
2 version of such methods approved or promulgated by the Environmental  
3 Protection Agency.

4 §2383.6. Data collection integrity

5 The parameters, equipment, and analytical methods along with any  
6 modeling or mapping software utilized for analysis of the monitoring data shall  
7 use the most current Environmental Protection Agency-approved or  
8 promulgated emission test or monitoring method. Analysis must be conducted  
9 through a laboratory approved by the Louisiana Environmental Laboratory  
10 Accreditation Program, known as LELAP, or include quality assurance  
11 certification of methods or equipment. Utilization of proprietary or not publicly  
12 available equipment or methods shall not be acceptable for community air  
13 monitoring programs.

14 §2383.7. Monitoring for criteria air pollutants

15 A. The department may use the data collected through the community  
16 air monitoring program to review compliance with the state's promulgated air  
17 monitoring requirements as part of its assessment of compliance with the air  
18 quality standards in 40 CFR Part 50, including the NAAQS.

19 B. If community air monitoring data indicates that ambient air is not in  
20 compliance with the NAAQS as determined in accordance with 40 CFR Part 50,  
21 the department may consider necessary actions to address the issue, including  
22 but not limited to, identifying sources of pollution, implementing pollution  
23 control measures, and engaging in public outreach and education. All actions  
24 taken by the department to address noncompliance with NAAQS shall be  
25 consistent with the Clean Air Act, if applicable.

26 §2383.8. Monitoring for hazardous air pollutants

27 A. The department may use the data collected through the community  
28 air monitoring program to review compliance with the state's ambient air  
29 quality standards for hazardous air pollutants and toxic air pollutants.

1           **B. If community air monitoring data indicates that ambient air is not in**  
2           **compliance with the ambient air standards specified in LAC 33:III.Chapter 51,**  
3           **the department may consider necessary actions to address the issue, including**  
4           **but not limited to identifying sources of pollution, implementing pollution**  
5           **control measure, and engaging in public outreach and education. All actions**  
6           **taken by the department to address noncompliance with ambient air standards**  
7           **shall be consistent with the Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, if applicable.**

8           **§2383.9. Data communication**

9           **Any release or communication of the collected monitoring data shall**  
10          **include clear explanations of data interpretation, appropriate context, including**  
11          **the applicable or comparable ambient air standard data limitations, and**  
12          **relevant uncertainties.**

13          **§2383.10. Prohibition on use of monitoring data**

14          **A. Data produced from community air monitoring programs alone is**  
15          **insufficient to demonstrate a stationary source is in violation of rule, regulation,**  
16          **or permit condition.**

17          **B. To promote compliance with this Chapter and the collection of**  
18          **accurate and reliable data from community air monitoring programs, any data**  
19          **produced from community air monitoring programs that are not in compliance**  
20          **with this Chapter shall not be used, disclosed, or disseminated by the**  
21          **department for purposes of or in support of the following:**

22                 **(1) Issuing a fine, penalty, or violation against any person, including the**  
23                 **owner or operator of a stationary source.**

24                 **(2) Bringing an administrative, regulatory, or judicial enforcement**  
25                 **action or proceeding against any person, including the owner or operator of a**  
26                 **stationary source.**

27          **C. The prohibitions under this Section apply to use by the department**  
28          **or any person of any monitoring data not in compliance with this Chapter for**  
29          **purposes of alleging violations or noncompliance with the federal Clean Air Act,**

1           Louisiana Environmental Quality Act, or any other applicable law, rule, or  
2           regulation for which the state has primary enforcement authority.

3           §2383.11. Severability

4           If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or  
5           circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or  
6           applications of the Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision  
7           or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are declared to be  
8           severable.

9           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
10          signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
11          by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
12          vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
13          effective on the day following such approval.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jacob K. Wilson.

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DIGEST

SB 503 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Lambert

Proposed law creates the Louisiana Community Air Monitoring Reliability Act to establish standards for monitoring programs to ensure public access to accurate air quality information.

Proposed law defines "ambient air" as that portion of the outdoor atmosphere which the public can access.

Proposed law defines "community air monitoring program" as the components of a system for collecting emissions data, during one-time or multi-sampling events, and measuring or recording air pollutant concentrations, by entities. Reporting entities, as defined in proposed law, are excluded.

Proposed law defines "criteria air pollutants" as those for which National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) are established under the Clean Air Act, including ozone, particulates, carbon monoxide, lead, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide.

Proposed law defines "department" as the Louisiana Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

Proposed law defines "EPA" as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Proposed law defines "hazardous air pollutant" as a pollutant as defined in federal law.

Proposed law defines "toxic air pollutants" as pollutants defined in Louisiana Administrative Code.

Proposed law defines "NAAQS" as the air quality standards established in federal law.

Proposed law defines "public funds" as any money provided by government or its instrumentalities.

Proposed law defines "private funds" as money that is not public funds.

Proposed law defines "reporting entities" as any owner or operator of a stationary source developing or administering an air monitoring program.

Proposed law defines "stationary source" as a source defined in federal law.

Proposed law requires community air monitoring programs that seek allege violations or noncompliance with the Clean Air Act, Louisiana Environmental Quality Act or other rule or law to use the standards provided in federal law and current EPA-approved testing and monitoring methods.

Proposed law requires that equipment, software, and methods for data collection and analysis use the current EPA-approved testing and monitoring methods. Requires that analysis be through a LELAP-approved laboratory or include quality assurance certification. Prohibits use of equipment or methods that are proprietary or not publicly available.

Proposed law provides that DEQ may use data collected through programs to review compliance with NAAQS. Provides that DEQ may consider actions including source identification, pollution control measures, and public outreach and education. Requires such actions be in accordance with the Clean Air Act.

Proposed law provides that DEQ may use data collected to review compliance with state ambient air quality standards for hazardous or toxic air pollutants. Provides that DEQ may consider actions including source identification, pollution control measures, and public outreach and education. Requires such actions be in accordance with the present law.

Proposed law requires that any communication of collected data include explanations, context, applicable air standard data limitations, and relevant uncertainties.

Proposed law provides that data produced by programs alone is not sufficient to show a violation of applicable law or permit. Further provides that DEQ shall not use data from community air monitoring programs that are not in compliance with proposed law for issuing a fine, penalty, or violation or for pursuing an enforcement action or proceeding.

Proposed law prohibits use of data not in compliance with proposed law for alleging a violation of or noncompliance with present law or any other law for which the state has primary enforcement authority.

Proposed law provides that invalidity of any provision of proposed law shall not affect any other provision or application of proposed law that can be effective without the invalid provision. Further provides that the provisions of proposed law are severable.

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

(Adds R.S. 30:2383.1-2383.11)