

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2024 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to Original Senate Bill No. 493 by Senator Hodges

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, line 2, after "reenact" delete the remainder of the line and on page 3 delete
3 "34:851.5" and insert "R.S. 56:109.4(A) and to repeal R.S. 56:109.4(C)"

4 AMENDMENT NO. 2

5 On page 1, line 7, after "Section 1." delete the remainder of the line, delete lines 8 through
6 17, delete page 2, and on page 3 delete lines 1 though 15 and insert the following:

7 "R.S.56:109.4 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

8 §109.4. Use of airboats on the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area

9 A. Use of airboats on **any public waterway shall be subject to free and**
10 **unrestricted navigation by motorboat within** the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management
11 Area ~~shall be limited to airboat trails. Such trails shall be established~~ **The commission may**
12 **regulate airboats** by rules and regulations promulgated ~~by the commission,~~ pursuant to the
13 Administrative Procedure Act, ~~where airboat operation is feasible and~~ in a manner to best
14 protect public safety and wildlife resources and habitats. ~~An airboat trail shall be established~~
15 ~~only on trails or rights of way existing as of February 1, 2018.~~ Such rules and regulations
16 shall also include the following:

17 (1) Require the exhaust of any internal combustion engine used on any airboat
18 operated on airboat trails be equipped with an automotive-style factory muffler, underwater
19 exhaust, or other manufactured device capable of adequately muffling the sound of the
20 exhaust of the engine.

21 (2) Limit the size of the internal combustion engine of any airboat operated on
22 airboat trails to no greater than three hundred fifty-one cubic inches.

23 (3) Require every person using an airboat trail to possess a WMA hunting permit,
24 to notify the department annually of the airboat's registration number, and to make such
25 airboat available for inspection by department personnel.

26 ~~(4) Prohibit the use of established airboat trails by airboats between September first~~
27 ~~and the following January thirty-first.~~

28 * * *

29 Section 2. R.S. 56:109.4 is hereby repealed."