

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

HB 934

2024 Regular Session

LaCombe

Present law provides for the following distribution of funds collected by the office of mineral resources from any contractual agreements for the storage of carbon dioxide on state-owned lands or water bottoms:

- (1) 30% to the Mineral and Energy Operation Fund.
- (2) 30% to parishes included in the agreement. If more than one parish is included in the agreement, the 30% will be divided based on the amount of land from each parish included in the agreement.
- (3) The remaining funds are deposited into the state general fund.

Present law excludes from the present law distribution all existing constitutional and statutory dedications of funds collected by the office of mineral resources on behalf of a state agency. Proposed law would have removed this exclusion.

Proposed law would have provided an exception to the distribution of funds under present law for funds collected by the office of mineral resources for the storage of carbon dioxide beneath lands and water bottoms under the jurisdiction of the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries and the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission. Under proposed law, these funds would have been distributed as follows:

- (1) 30% to parishes included in the agreement. If more than one parish is included in the agreement, the 30% will be divided based on the amount of land from each parish included in the agreement.
- (2) The remainder to the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Fund.

Proposed law would have further provided for the following distribution of funds collected by the Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries or the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Commission when they entered into their own agreements for the storage of carbon dioxide on lands or water bottoms under their jurisdiction:

- (1) 30% to parishes included in the agreement. If more than one parish is included in the agreement, the 30% will be divided based on the amount of land from each parish included in the agreement.
- (2) The remainder to the La. Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation Fund.

Present law provides that certain obsolete provisions of law regarding the La. Economic Acceleration Program (LEAP) do not authorize the breach of conditions contained in donations of state wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, or public hunting grounds.

Proposed law would have removed the present law references to the LEAP program, added that the dedication of revenue from carbon dioxide storage on state property and Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries property under present law and proposed law would not have authorized the breach of conditions contained in acts of donation affecting state wildlife refuges, wildlife management areas, or public hunting grounds which were accepted prior to Aug. 1, 2024.

Proposed law would have further provided that a parish governing authority could tailor or restrict its use of dedicated funds to comply with the terms or conditions of such donations.

(Proposed to amend R.S. 30:149(B)(intro. par.) and (C) and 209.2(B)(intro. par.) and (C) and R.S. 56:765; proposed to add R.S. 30:149.1)

VETO MESSAGE:

"Please be advised that I have vetoed House Bill 934 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session. Act 378 of 2023 Regular Legislative Session enacted R.S. 30:149, which allocates 30% of the revenue collected by the Office of Mineral Resources from any contractual agreement for carbon dioxide sequestration or pore space rights on state-owned land or water bottoms to the parish where the land is located. Section C of R.S. 30:149 specifically exempted constitutional and statutory dedications. House Bill 934 would remove this exemption. While I support sharing revenue from carbon dioxide sequestration and pore space rights on state-owned land, changes to constitutionally dedicated funds cannot be made through a statute. I am committed to working on future legislation to ensure that a portion of revenue from such projects is remitted to our local governments."