

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 367

BY SENATOR EDMONDS

WATER MANAGEMENT. Creates the Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund.
(8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 38:3310, relative to the Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund; to
3 provide for establishment of the fund; to provide for a purpose; to provide for the
4 transfer, deposit, and use of monies in the fund; to provide with respect to the Amite
5 River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District; and to provide for related
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 38:3310 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 **§3310. Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund**

10 **A. There is hereby established in the state treasury a special fund to be**
11 **known as the "Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund", hereinafter**
12 **referred to as the "fund".**

13 **B. The purpose of the fund shall be to support the reclamation,**
14 **restoration, and long-term stewardship of lands and watersheds within**
15 **the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District.**

16 **C. After allocation of money to the Bond Security and**
17 **Redemption Fund as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the**

1 Constitution of Louisiana, the treasurer shall deposit into the fund any
 2 monies transferred, donated, or appropriated to the fund by the
 3 legislature.

4 D. Monies in the fund shall be invested in the same manner as
 5 monies in the state general fund. Any interest earned on the investment
 6 of monies in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Unexpended and
 7 unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall
 8 remain in the fund.

9 E. The legislature may appropriate monies from the fund to the
 10 board of commissioners of the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water
 11 Conservation District for any purpose authorized pursuant to this
 12 Section.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 367 Engrossed

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Edmonds

Proposed law creates the Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund to support the reclamation, restoration, and long-term stewardship of lands and watersheds within the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District.

Proposed law requires the treasurer to deposit into the fund any monies transferred, donated, or appropriated to the fund by the legislature. Further requires that monies in the fund be invested in the same manner as monies in the state general fund. Any interest earned on the investment of monies in the fund shall be credited to the fund. Unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund.

Proposed law authorizes the legislature to appropriate monies from the fund to the board of commissioners of the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District for any purpose authorized pursuant to proposed law.

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Adds R.S. 38:3310)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the original bill

1. Change the purpose of the fund to stewardship of lands and watersheds within the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District.

2. Provide for the transfer, deposit, and uses of monies in the fund.
3. Authorize the legislature to appropriate monies from the fund to the board of commissioners of the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District for any purpose authorized pursuant to proposed law.
4. Remove provisions allocating severance tax revenues.
5. Remove provisions providing eligibility criteria for entities to receive monies from the fund.
6. Remove provisions requiring the secretary of conservation and energy to administer the fund and reporting requirements.