RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 762 (SB 379) **2026 Regular Session** **Hensgens**

Existing law establishes the Dept. of Conservation and Energy and provides for jurisdiction, duties, and powers of the department and the secretary.

Prior law provided for the office of mineral resources.

New law changes the office of mineral resources to the office of state resources, changes references to the former position of commissioner of conservation to the secretary of the Dept. of Conservation and Energy, and makes other technical corrections.

Existing law authorizes the State Mineral and Energy Board to lease state property for mineral exploration and alternative energy, such as solar, wind, geothermal, and hydrokinetic.

New law provides that leases of state and other public lands may be for development and production of minerals, oil, gas, or alternative energy sources.

Existing law establishes a process for application, inspection, advertisement, and bids for leases. Other political subdivisions, such as ports and school boards, may ask the board to lease for them.

Prior law limited minimum royalties for such leases, other than for school boards, to 1/8th for oil, gas, sulphur, and potash, and 1/20th for lignite and salt.

New law allows the board to set royalties at less than 1/8th but greater than 1/16th upon a finding that market conditions, commodity prices, or other economic factors warrant the reduction.

Existing law provides for the investment by the state treasurer of monies within funds under the control of the Natural Resources Trust Authority, including the Natural Resources Financial Security Fund, the Mineral and Energy Operation Fund, and the Carbon Dioxide Geologic Storage Trust Fund.

Prior law authorized the treasurer to invest monies in these funds according to existing law or in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool.

New law removes the treasurer's authority to invest trust authority funds in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool and instead authorizes the treasurer to invest the monies in separate portfolios.

Existing law provides a process for judicial review of administrative decisions, including time delays for filing a suit for review.

New law provides that the time delays for filing a suit for review start tolling from the date that an administrative decision is posted to the department's website.

New law further provides that any third party with an interest in the underlying administrative decision has a right to intervene in the suit for review.

Effective June 6, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 30:3(7), 4(C)(14), (D)(1)(a) and (5), (G), and (I)(2), 5(C)(1), (C)(2)(intro para), and (6), and (D)(1), 5.1(A)(1) and (B)(1), 6.1(A) and (C), 12(A)(2), 21.1(A)(3) and (D)(5), 23(D)(2), 26, 29(A) and (I)(4), 73(1), 74(A)(3) and (B), 98.3(B), 101.2(A), 101.5(A), 127(A), 136.3(B)(1) and (C), 153(A), 548(intro para), 917(F), 1110(A)(2) and (C)(1)(f) and (g), R.S. 36:356.1(D) and 358(B), (E)(2), and (G), and R.S. 49:214.35(B), (E), and (F); adds R.S. 30:12(A)(3), 84(A)(9) and (10), and 2050.22(C), and R.S. 49:214.35(G) and 978.1(A)(3); repeals R.S. 30:4(O)(3), 85, and 101.6)