

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 28

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Environmental Quality to place a moratorium on the issuance of landfill permits in the community of Alsen, Louisiana, until a thorough economic and environmental impact study has been conducted in consultation with residents and local officials.

WHEREAS, the Department of Environmental Quality is constitutionally and statutorily charged with the protection of the environment of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, local governments are chiefly responsible for parish land use determinations and zoning ordinances in order to effectively maximize its resources and navigate its future development both in economic terms and management of the quality of life of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, currently under the Louisiana Administrative Code, Title 33, Part VII, the Department of Environmental Quality, within its industrial waste disposal permitting process, is unable to consider changes in local land use restrictions and zoning ordinances by local governments and their economic development requirements after an application has been submitted to the department; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Alsen, Louisiana, are concerned about the economic and environmental impacts any new permits for landfill expansion might impose on their community; and

WHEREAS, it is important that the Department of Environmental Quality has the authority to consider permittee compliance with local zoning and land use restrictions prior to issuance of an order to commence operations of a waste disposal facility.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Environmental Quality to impose a moratorium on the issuance of any new landfill permits in the community of Alsen, Louisiana, until a thorough economic and environmental impact study has been conducted in consultation with residents and local officials.

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ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE