

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 689 (Substitute for House Bill No. 535 by Representative Marcelle)

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 38:3097.8 and to enact R.S. 38:3097.3(G) and 3097.9, relative
3 to water resource management; to provide for the duties and powers of the
4 commissioner of conservation; to provide for reporting and parliamentary
5 requirements for certain water conservation districts; and to provide for related
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 38:3097.8 is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 38:3097.3(G)
9 and 3097.9 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

10 §3097.3. Commissioner of conservation; powers and duties

11 * * *

12 G. The commissioner shall ensure submission of the semiannual reports
13 required of the ground water conservation districts by R.S. 38:3097.8. If the reports
14 are not submitted timely or do not include the pertinent information required, the
15 commissioner is authorized to require monthly submissions of the reports until he
16 is satisfied with the adequacy and informative nature of the reports.

17 * * *

18 §3097.8. ~~Annual report~~ Semiannual reports regarding groundwater quality and
19 saltwater intrusion

20 A. On or before ~~April first annually, each water conservation district, fresh~~
21 ~~water district, and groundwater~~ May first and November first every year, each
22 ground water conservation district created by law or designated as a regional body,
23 pursuant to R.S. 38:3097.4(D)(6), shall submit a written report of the district's
24 ~~groundwater resources~~ to the commissioner of conservation, the Water Resources
25 Commission, the Water Management Advisory Task Force, the Senate Committee

1 on ~~Natural Resources~~ Environmental Quality, and the House Committee on Natural
 2 Resources and Environment a written report detailing the district's ground water
 3 resources and the activities and actions taken with respect to each of the district's
 4 powers delineated by laws creating the district. The report shall also include but not
 5 be limited to the amount of water used for residential, commercial or industrial, or
 6 agricultural purposes, respectively; actual and projected saltwater intrusion or
 7 encroachment; and any current or projected sale of water for use outside of the state,
 8 including the amount of water so sold and the price paid by each out-of-state user.

9 B. For purposes of the ~~annual~~ semiannual report, the amount of water used
 10 for agricultural or industrial purposes may be estimated.

11 C. The commissioner shall promulgate a form with a checklist of the
 12 pertinent information required to be included in the semi-annual report.

13 §3097.9. Ground water conservation district meetings

14 Any governing authority of a ground water conservation district created by
 15 law or designated as a regional body, pursuant to R.S. 38:3097.4(D)(6), shall adhere
 16 to the Open Meetings Law, R.S. 42:11 et seq. Such governing authority shall issue
 17 public notice of meetings, including an agenda, at least twenty-four hours in
 18 advance. In addition, the public shall be provided the opportunity to comment on
 19 each item on the agenda and for general comments at the end of each meeting. Any
 20 such governing authority shall operate under Robert's Rules of Order and shall record
 21 and maintain minutes of each meeting. Any standing subcommittee created by such
 22 governing authority shall be composed only of members of the governing authority
 23 and the governing authority shall not establish ad hoc committees.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____