

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 558

BY REPRESENTATIVE HODGES

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

DISTRICTS/DRAINAGE: Provides relative to the Statewide Flood Control Program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 38:90.2(Section heading), (A), and (C) and 90.5(A), relative to
3 the Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission; to rename the Floodplain
4 Evaluation and Management Commission; to expand the scope of the commission;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 38:90.2(Section heading), (A), and (C) and 90.5(A) are hereby
8 amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §90.2. Revision of flood information database by the ~~Floodplain Evaluation and~~
10 ~~Management Commission~~ Louisiana Watershed Commission

11 A. Provided that sufficient funds are specifically appropriated to the office,
12 no later than March 1, 2022, and at least once every five years thereafter, the
13 ~~Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission~~ Louisiana Watershed
14 Commission, consisting of the Department of Transportation and Development, the
15 Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, the office of community development,
16 the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, the
17 Department of Environmental Quality, a member from the House Committee on
18 Transportation, Highways and Public Works, a member from the Senate Committee
19 on Transportation, Highways; and Public Works, and the secretary of the Department
20 of Wildlife and Fisheries or his designee shall review and revise the statewide flood

1 information database. The secretary of the Department of Transportation and
 2 Development or his designee shall serve as chairman of the commission. The
 3 database will be developed for the purpose of the systematic evaluation of drainage
 4 and flooding problems in the state. The commission shall review the development
 5 proposals in each area to ensure that no development in one parish or municipality
 6 will have a negative or detrimental effect in any other parish or municipality. In
 7 addition, the commission shall ensure that maintenance in any basin area across
 8 parish or municipal boundaries, including the clearing and de-snagging of the Amite
 9 and Comite Rivers, are performed according to any contractual obligations and state
 10 law.

11 * * *

12 C. If the ~~Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission~~ Louisiana
 13 Watershed Commission fails to perform the review and revision of the statewide
 14 flood information database as required in Subsection A of this Section, the
 15 commission shall submit a written report to the committee prior to the beginning of
 16 the next regular legislative session to inform the committee of the specific reason for
 17 such failure.

18 * * *

19 §90.5. Report to Joint Legislative Committee on Transportation, Highways and
 20 Public Works; recommendation of the Flood Control Project Evaluation
 21 Committee; flood protection needs study; incremental funding of rural and
 22 urban projects

23 A. The final revision provided for in R.S. 38:90.2 by the ~~Floodplain~~
 24 ~~Evaluation and Management Commission~~ Louisiana Watershed Commission shall
 25 be furnished to the committee and the Flood Control Project Evaluation Committee
 26 prior to the beginning of the 2022 Regular Session of the Legislature and every fifth
 27 year thereafter. However, that portion of the final revision encompassing the Amite
 28 River Basin shall be furnished to the committee and the Flood Control Project
 29 Evaluation Committee prior to the beginning of the 2020 Regular Session of the

1 Legislature. Prior to each legislative session beginning with the 2023 Regular
 2 Session of the Legislature, the evaluation committee shall submit a recommended
 3 list of projects, including supporting data, to the committee. The committee shall
 4 conduct hearings to receive the revision of the flood information database called for
 5 in R.S. 38:90.2 and the recommendations from the evaluation committee.

6 * * *

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HB 558 Original

2019 Regular Session

Hodges

Abstract: Renames the Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission to the La. Watershed Commission.

Present law provides for the Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission to review and revise the statewide flood information database.

Proposed law renames the Floodplain Evaluation and Management Commission as the La. Watershed Commission. Proposed law otherwise retains present law.

(Amends R.S. 38:90.2(Section heading), (A), and (C) and 90.5(A))