

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 37

BY REPRESENTATIVES HILFERTY AND FREEMAN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Environmental Quality to implement measures to prevent the release and discharge of preproduction plastic from facilities into the waters of the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Louisiana's waterways are a primary means of transport for both preproduction plastic and finished plastic products from around the world; and

WHEREAS, on August 2, 2020, approximately forty-eight thousand pounds of preproduction plastic pellets spilled from a cargo ship moored in the Mississippi River in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the potential for the future release of preproduction plastic into the waters of this state presents a threat to the environment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Environmental Quality to implement measures to prevent the release and discharge of preproduction plastic from facilities into the waters of the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as a part of preventing the release and discharge of preproduction plastics the Department of Environmental Quality should: (1) incorporate into new and existing Louisiana Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (LPDES) permits a condition or conditions mandating zero discharge or release of preproduction plastic from facilities which manufacture or manage such material; (2) require permitted facilities which manufacture or manage preproduction plastic to maintain a spill prevention plan approved by the Department of Environmental Quality, addressing procedures to prevent and abate any release or discharge of preproduction plastic into the waters of the state including

packaging; and (3) develop and implement a spill management plan for entities transporting preproduction plastics for instances when significant-quantity spill events occur.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE