
The original instrument was prepared by Jacob Wilson. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by James Benton.

SB 102 Engrossed

DIGEST
2023 Regular Session

Fred Mills

Proposed law establishes the Acadiana Watershed District, provides for its purpose, and defines its geographic boundaries.

Proposed law provides for the district's corporate status and its authority to incur debt, for a domicile within Lafayette and central to the district, for ownership, operation, and maintenance of a regional sensor network, and for recognition of the Louisiana Watershed Flood Center at UL-Lafayette as a regional data resource.

Proposed law provides for the responsibilities and auditing of the district and for its use, storage, and maintenance of the LWI Region 5 hydrologic and hydraulic model.

Proposed law establishes a board of commissioners to govern and manage the affairs of the district, provides for the membership appointments, for creation of bylaws, for meetings, for a technical advisory committee comprised of non-voting members, for compensation of board members, for terms, and for replacement of board members.

Proposed law provides that the board shall be comprised of the following members:

- (1) The police jury presidents of the parishes of Acadia, Allen, Avoyelles, Calcasieu, Cameron, Evangeline, Jefferson Davis, Rapides, and Vermilion, or their respective designees.
- (2) The mayor-president of Lafayette Parish or his designee.
- (3) The parish presidents of the parishes of Iberia, Iberville, Pointe Coupee, St. Landry, St. Martin, and St. Mary, or their respective designees.

Proposed law provides for the powers of the board of commissioners, including that to acquire funding and property, to contract with public and private entities, to levy taxes on any property within the district subject to taxation, to advise state and local government on drainage and flooding issues, to conduct public hearings, to construct and maintain drainage works, to develop and recommend regional planning and practice guidance, and to develop and implement a waterway management plan and a comprehensive drainage, flood control, and water resource management plan.

Proposed law provides that by entering into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the state, the district shall be recognized as the primary entity responsible for and charged with operating,

managing, and maintaining models and any derivative work.

Proposed law authorizes the district to develop a regional hazard mitigation plan that is consistent with parish hazard mitigation plans.

Proposed law precludes the division of administration, Dept. of Transportation and Development, and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority from displacing, replacing, or supplanting district funding.

Effective August 1, 2023.

(Enacts R.S. 38:3321-3327)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to the original bill

1. Properly references the city and parish of Lafayette.
2. Adds the mayor-president of Lafayette to the board of commissioners of the district.
3. Specifies that by entering into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the state, the district shall be recognized as the primary entity responsible for and charged with operating, managing, and maintaining models and any derivative work