

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 494 (SB 432)

2024 Regular Session

Edmonds

Existing law creates the Capital Area Groundwater Conservation District and a board of commissioners to administer the affairs of the district.

Existing law provides the members for the board of commissioners who may be appointed or elected.

New law retains existing law and provides that commissioners may only be appointed.

Prior law required that three commissioners be appointed from nominations made by the industrial users in the district.

New law changes the nominating entities from industrial users to the Louisiana State University Center for Energy Studies, the College of Engineering at Southern University and Ag and Mechanical College, the Greater Baton Rouge Industrial Alliance, the La. Association of Business and Industry, the La. Chemical Association, the La. Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association, and the La. Oil & Gas Association.

Existing law requires that three commissioners be appointed from nominations made by entities that furnish water for rural or municipal use within the district, and that one of the three be nominated by privately owned users furnishing a municipal water supply.

New law retains existing law and requires that one of the three nominations be by privately owned users furnishing a municipal water supply to no fewer than 250,000 persons.

Existing law provides for powers of the board.

New law retains existing law and prohibits the board from requiring installation of additional meters or changes thereto when a user maintains such devices on each well in compliance with metering and monthly reporting requirements. Further requires that user-installed meters meet accepted scientific practices, be capable of a maximum deviation of no less than 5% of actual flows, and measure and report data per well, per stratum, on a monthly basis.

New law requires that meters be installed, calibrated, validated, and maintained by a qualified source with formal training or practical experience. Further provides that the board may audit all meters of users other than nuclear electric generating stations once yearly and may install temporary meters at its own cost to verify performance.

Prior law authorized the board to expand the district to include adjacent parishes, with added parishes to have equal board representation and conditions as the original parishes.

New law repeals prior law.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 38:3073(3) and R.S. 38:3074(A)(2) and (3); adds R.S. 38:3076(F); repeals R.S. 38:3076(A)(22))