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HOUSE FLOOR AMENDMENTS

2025 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Representative Geymann to Reengrossed Senate Bill No. 244 by Senator Hensgens

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 Delete House Committee Amendment No. 70 by the House Committee on Natural Resources
3 and Environment (#3977).

4 AMENDMENT NO. 2

5 In Amendment No. 77 by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment
6 (#3977), on page 15, delete line 5 in its entirety and insert "via certified mail to the parties,
7 the department, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Department of
8 Wildlife and Fisheries for their review and"

9 AMENDMENT NO. 3

10 In Amendment No. 77 by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment
11 (#3977), on page 15, at the end of line 7, after "thirty days." insert "If no comments are
12 submitted, the hearing officer shall issue his decision within fifteen days following the
13 end of the thirty-day comment period. If comments are submitted, the hearing officer
14 shall have thirty days from receipt of the last comment or from the end of the
15 thirty-day comment period, whichever is later, to issue his decision. If a comment is
16 submitted by one of the three departments in which a department states that the draft
17 decision must be revised in order to meet compliance with one of its applicable laws,
18 rules, or regulations, then the hearing officer shall revise the draft decision accordingly
19 prior to issuing his decision."

20 AMENDMENT NO. 4

21 In Amendment No. 77 by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment
22 (#3977), on page 15, line 9, after "party" and before the period "." insert "within thirty
23 days of the issuance of his decision"

24 AMENDMENT NO. 5

25 In Amendment No. 77 by the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment
26 (#3977), on page 15, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

27 "(4) If conducted, the panel shall issue a draft decision and provide
28 copies via certified mail to the parties, the department, the Department of
29 Environmental Quality, and the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries for their
30 review and comments, which shall be provided to the panel, other parties, and
31 all three departments within thirty days of receipt of the draft decision. If no
32 comments are submitted, then the panel shall issue its decision within fifteen
33 days following the end of the thirty-day comment period. If comments are
34 submitted, the panel has thirty days from receipt of the last comment or from
35 the end of the thirty-day comment period, whichever is later, to issue its
36 decision. If a comment is submitted by one of the three departments in which
37 a department states that the draft decision must be revised in order to meet

1 compliance with one of its applicable laws, rules, or regulations, then the panel
 2 shall revise the draft decision accordingly prior to issuing its decision. The
 3 decision of the panel is final."

4 AMENDMENT NO. 6

5 On page 3, line 27, after "R.S. 44:4.1(B)(19), change "R.S. 45:252" to ""R.S. 45:251(3), 252,
 6 and 255"

7 AMENDMENT NO. 7

8 On page 94, at the beginning of line 8, insert "A."

9 AMENDMENT NO. 8

10 On page 94, line 14, after "Energy to" delete the remainder of the line and delete line 15 and
 11 insert the following:

12 "establish a comprehensive water resource management program taking into
 13 consideration the requirements, needs, and obligations of all stakeholders of
 14 water in the state of Louisiana. The program shall be based on good
 15 management practices, sound science, and economics according to generally
 16 accepted principles in those disciplines. It shall include as a goal the long-term
 17 sustainability of the state's water resources and of the state's ecological welfare,
 18 while considering the economic value of the state's role in interstate commerce
 19 and the economic welfare of its citizens. Further, it shall provide for the
 20 efficient administration in the utilization and management of water resources,
 21 including the gathering of data related to the state's water resources. Thus, the
 22 state's water resources shall be protected, conserved, managed, and replenished
 23 in an effective manner with due regard for the foregoing considerations and the
 24 best interest of all the citizens of the state.

25 B. The legislature hereby recognizes the need for uniformity in the
 26 establishment of a comprehensive water resource management program.
 27 Therefore, the state shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the management of
 28 water resources and this Part shall supersede and preempt any rule, regulation,
 29 code, statute, or ordinance of any political subdivision or other unit of local
 30 government. However, nothing contained in this Part shall be construed to
 31 deny such local government the authority over siting facilities pursuant to any
 32 general land use planning or zoning ordinance or to deny soil and water
 33 conservation districts powers granted pursuant to R.S. 3:1208.

34 C. In accordance with the legislative intent provided in this Section, the
 35 statewide water resource management program and any rule, regulation, or
 36 order of the secretary shall recognize historic use of water resources in the state
 37 and may incorporate the use of appropriate incentives to encourage
 38 conservation of water resources and the appropriate utilization of alternate
 39 water supplies where appropriate. Consistent with the provisions of this
 40 Chapter and in consultation with the secretary, the incentives and provisions of
 41 alternate water resources may be provided by the state, or any local subdivision
 42 thereof, by virtue of tax incentives, tax credits, and physical projects
 43 transporting or providing alternate water resources to existing water users and
 44 by any private person with an interest in conserving such water resources for
 45 public use."

46 AMENDMENT NO. 9

47 On page 94, line 18, after "to the" delete "management," and delete line 19 in its
 48 entirety and insert "comprehensive water resource management program."

1 AMENDMENT NO. 10

2 On page 94, delete lines 24 through 26 in their entirety

3 AMENDMENT NO. 11

4 On page 94, at the beginning of line 27, change "(2)" to "(1)"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 12

6 On page 95, delete lines 1 and 2 in their entirety

7 AMENDMENT NO. 13

8 On page 95, at the beginning of line 3, change "(4)" to "(2)" and after "for the" and
9 before the comma ";" change "office" to "department"

10 AMENDMENT NO. 14

11 On page 95. line 5, after "water wells" and before the period "." insert "or surface water
12 withdrawals under the jurisdiction of the department"

13 AMENDMENT NO. 15

14 On page 95, delete lines 11 through 29 in their entirety and delete pages 96 through 99 in
15 their entirety and on page 100, delete lines 1 and 2 in their entirety and insert the
16 following:

17 **"§98.4. Regional districts; water resource management**

18 **A. The secretary may in consultation with the Natural Resources**
19 **Commission promulgate rules and regulations for the appointment or**
20 **designation of regional water districts, which when so appointed may be**
21 **delegated the powers, authorities, and duties of the department for groundwater**
22 **or surface water resource management within the regional district.**

23 **B. In addition to its other powers and authorities established in law, the**
24 **department is authorized to:**

25 **(1) Receive and collect water resource data and water use data**
26 **throughout the state.**

27 **(2) Cooperate with and enter into contracts or cooperative agreements**
28 **with other governmental units and agencies of this state, with governments and**
29 **agencies of other states and of the United States, and with private agencies or**
30 **other water conservation districts as necessary to fulfill the provisions of this**
31 **Part.**

32 **(3) Conduct studies and investigations of all problems concerning water**
33 **resources in the state.**

34 **(4) Identify and protect water recharge areas.**

35 **(5) Monitor and evaluate water resources including current and**
36 **projected demands, inventory the state's water resources, identify technical**
37 **research and previously developed information on water, identify future**
38 **potential deficit areas, study alternatives to surface water use including**
39 **treatment, transmission systems, and reclamation, and investigate incentives for**
40 **conservation and the use of alternative technologies including public education**
41 **and conservation programs.**

42 **(6) Promote water conservation measures and best practices for water**
43 **resource sustainability."**

44
45 AMENDMENT NO. 16

46 On page 100, delete line 13 in its entirety and insert "A. The"

1 AMENDMENT NO. 17

2 On page 100, line 14, after "to" delete the colon ":" and delete lines 15 through 18 in
 3 their entirety and insert "**enforce the provisions of this Part consistent with its**
 4 **authority under law.**"

5 AMENDMENT NO. 18

6 On page 100, line 23, after "this" and before "shall" change "Chapter" to "Part"

7 AMENDMENT NO. 19

8 On page 185, between lines 27 and 28, insert the following:

9 **"(15) Establish a formal certification process to recognize academic and**
 10 **research institutions within the state who possess specialized expertise in areas**
 11 **such as energy technologies, natural resources management, environmental**
 12 **stewardship, resource economics, and other strategically significant fields of**
 13 **research and development related to the mission of the department, which may**
 14 **be accomplished through entering into agreements with certified institutions to**
 15 **govern ownership of intellectual property developed through or in conjunction**
 16 **with this program. The secretary shall coordinate with the Natural Resources**
 17 **Commission in developing this process. The secretary may promulgate rules**
 18 **and regulations to implement this program. Unless otherwise specified by the**
 19 **secretary, primary management of this program shall be placed in the office of**
 20 **energy."**

21 AMENDMENT NO. 20

22 On page 194, at the end of line 21, insert "**The office of energy shall work to provide the**
 23 **department and the Natural Resources Commission with technical assistance and**
 24 **expertise in matters related to energy and natural resources and shall also work to**
 25 **identify policy options relative to energy related matters upon request. Finally, the**
 26 **office of energy shall coordinate with academic and research institutions who possess**
 27 **specialized expertise in areas related to energy and natural resources on behalf of the**
 28 **department.**"

29 AMENDMENT NO. 21

30 On page 209, line 14, after "Section 7." and before "hereby amended" change "R.S. 45:252
 31 is" to "R.S. 45:251(3), 252, and 255 are"

32 AMENDMENT NO. 22

33 On page 209, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

34 **"(3)(a) "Pipe line" includes the following:**
 35 **(i) ~~the~~ The real estate, rights or way, pipe in line, telephone and telegraph**
 36 **lines or other communications systems, tank facilities as herein designated,**
 37 **necessary or integral to the pipe line transportation function** and necessary for
 38 the proper conduct of ~~its~~ **the subject common carrier's** business as a common
 39 carrier.
 40 **(ii) ~~at~~ All fixtures, equipment and personal property of every kind owned,**
 41 **controlled, operated, used or managed, in connection with, or to facilitate the**
 42 **transportation, distribution and delivery of petroleum through lines constructed of**
 43 **pipe.**
 44 **(b) "Pipe line" does not include the following:**
 45 **(i) Pipes designed and used solely within a terminal facility for**
 46 **terminaling services, including pipes delivering petroleum into or extracting**

