
DIGEST

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HB 595 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Jacob Landry

Abstract: Prohibits local governing authorities from using inaction on local permitting decisions to unreasonably interfere with the state's ability to develop natural resources.

Proposed law provides that the dept. is vested with exclusive authority over the natural resources of the state, including regulations, permitting, and related fee schedules.

Proposed law prohibits local governing authorities from using inaction on permitting decisions to unreasonably interfere with activities permitted by the dept. Provides that applications for local road permits related to activities permitted by the dept. which have not been approved or denied within 30 days are deemed to be approved.

(Adds R.S. 30:4.4)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

1. Specify that the prohibition on the ability of political subdivisions, local governing authorities, or municipal or parochial permitting bodies to enact permitting laws or ordinances related to activities permitted by the Department of Conservation and Energy applies to the ability of those entities to use inaction on local permitting decisions to unreasonably interfere with the department's permitting activities.
2. Require that applications for local road permits related to the activities permitted by the Department of Conservation and Energy that have not been approved or denied with written reasons for denial within 30 days be deemed approved.
3. Make technical changes.