HLS 15RS-1297 ORIGINAL

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 745

1

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARROW

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

WATER/RESOURCES: Provides for limitations of memberships of boards charged with the responsibility to conserve ground water

AN ACT

2	To amend and reenact R.S. 38:3097.4(D)(6), relative to the conservation of groundwater; to
3	provide for entities responsible for the conservation of groundwater; to limit
4	membership of boards governing certain entities; and to provide for related matters.
5	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
6	Section 1. R.S. 38:3097.4(D)(6) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
7	§3097.4. Water Resources Commission; membership; powers and responsibilities
8	* * *
9	D.
10	* * *
11	(6)(a) Direct the commissioner to promulgate rules and regulations for the
12	appointment or designation of up to five regional bodies based on the general
13	location of major aquifer systems and water sources of the state and composed of
14	local stakeholders who are representative of current users. Such bodies may gather
15	data and provide local input to the commission and the commissioner.
16	(b) No person shall be eligible to serve as a member of the governing body
17	of regional body provided for in this Paragraph or any political subdivision created
18	for the purpose of conserving ground water, including those organized by R.S.
19	38:3087.131 et seq. and 3071 et seq., if the person is employed by, has an ownership
20	interest in, or is a consultant of a private entity that produces ground water in the

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CODING: Words in struck through type are deletions from existing law; words <u>underscored</u> are additions.

jurisdiction of the governing body for any beneficial use, in excess of fifty thousand
gallons for any day during any calendar year from a well or wells owned or operated
by such entity or from a well or wells owned or operated solely for the production
of water used by such entity.

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## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 745 Original

2015 Regular Session

Barrow

**Abstract:** Limits the membership of board for ground water conservation bodies and political subdivisions.

<u>Present law</u> places the management and planning of the state's water resources, including ground water, in the commissioner of conservation and the Water Resources Commission.

<u>Present law</u> requires the commissioner to make a designation, through the Administrative Procedure Act, of up to five regional bodies based on the general location of major aquifer systems and water sources of the state and composed of local stakeholders. Such bodies may gather data and provide local input to the commission and the commissioner.

<u>Proposed law</u> prohibits any person from serving as a member of the governing body of a regional body or any political subdivision created for the purpose conserving ground water, if the person is employed by, has an ownership interest in, or is a consultant of a private entity that produces ground water in the jurisdiction of the governing body for any beneficial use, in excess of 50,000 gallons for any day during any calendar year from a well or wells owned or operated by such entity or from a well or wells owned or operated solely for the production of water used by such entity.

(Adds R.S. 38:3097.4(D)(6))