
DIGEST

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HB 788 Original

2020 Regular Session

Cormier

Abstract: Provides for the process by which the Legislature of Louisiana adopts coastal restoration projects designed to divert Mississippi River water into either the Barataria or Breton basins.

Present law provides that after adoption by the board, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) must submit its annual plan to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works for approval. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law further requires that any coastal restoration project which is designed to divert Mississippi River water into either the Barataria or Breton basins be presented to the applicable legislative committees for review in a separate plan and must be done in a separate resolution following the same procedures for approval under present law.

Present law specifies that the legislature may approve or disapprove a plan by resolution adopted by a majority vote of the members of each house of the legislature. Further provides that if the legislature disapproves a plan, it must include in the resolution a brief summary of the reasons for disapproval and may make recommendations concerning any changes it deems necessary or appropriate to remedy any deficiencies in the plan. Proposed law retains present law and further adds that no expenditures on a plan can be authorized until such time as the legislature approves a plan by resolution adopted by a majority vote of each house of the legislature.

Present law further provides that if the legislature fails to take action on the master plan within 60 days after the plan is submitted, the board shall provide for implementation of the plan as submitted.

Proposed law modifies present law by specifying that if the legislature approves the master plan it must provide for implementation of the plan as approved.

(Amends R.S. 49:214.5.3(E)(1), (3), and (4))