

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 67

BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

ENERGY: Creates a special task force for the legislature to work with the Department of Energy and Natural Resources, the Department of Environmental Quality, and the Louisiana Board of Regents to assess the capacity of government, industry, and academia to model the behavior of geologically sequestered carbon dioxide and to develop a method, if necessary

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To create a special task force to evaluate the existing capacity of government and industry
3 to model the behavior of geologically sequestered carbon dioxide and to develop a
4 method to model the behavior of geologically sequestered carbon dioxide if none
5 exists.

6 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has enacted legislation permitting carbon
7 capture and sequestration within the state; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2023, the United States Environmental Protection Agency signed a
9 final rule giving the state of Louisiana primary enforcement authority, or primacy, over
10 Class VI underground injection wells, which are used by the carbon capture and
11 sequestration industry to permanently sequester captured carbon in underground geological
12 formations within the state; and

13 WHEREAS, Class VI permits are now being considered by the Department of
14 Energy and Natural Resources and carbon capture and sequestration injection wells are
15 beginning to be built within the state; and

16 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana requires a method that will accurately model the
17 behavior of carbon dioxide that is deposited into the earth's surface after being captured and
18 transported in pipelines; and

1 WHEREAS, the method should be able to accurately model and predict the potential
2 behavior and movement of the captured carbon dioxide in all types of soil, rock, sediment,
3 and other subsurface substrate layers where Class VI wells may be permitted; and

4 WHEREAS, the task force should confer to determine whether a method exists that
5 can predict with a ninety-five percent degree of certainty the behavior of buried carbon
6 dioxide in any type of soil or below ground paradigm in the state of Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, if a method exists inside of federal or state government, the task force
8 should assess the reliability and effectiveness of the method and determine if the state of
9 Louisiana may access or use the method to predict carbon dioxide behavior over periods of
10 time; and

11 WHEREAS, if the method exists, the task force should determine if the state of
12 Louisiana should use the method in assessing risk and reward for allowing carbon dioxide
13 sequestration locations in the state, such as whether the method is reliable and whether it was
14 appropriately and scientifically tested; and

15 WHEREAS, if a method exists within industry in the private sector, the task force
16 should assess the reliability and efficacy of the method and determine if the state of
17 Louisiana should utilize it when assessing the risk or reward of allowing carbon
18 sequestration in specific locations within the state; and

19 WHEREAS, if the method exists the task force should determine the cost of
20 purchasing the method and training state personnel to use the method; and

21 WHEREAS, if no such method exists, the task force shall establish a timeline
22 wherein state scientific and higher education researchers can develop, beta test, and field test
23 such a method.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
25 create a task force to assess the existing capacity of government, industry, or academia to
26 model the behavior of carbon dioxide buried in a permanent storage location beneath the
27 earth's surface to be comprised of:

28 (1) The chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources and
29 Environment or his designee.

30 (2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources or his designee.

1 (3) The secretary of the Department of Energy and Natural Resources or his
2 designee.

3 (4) The secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality or his designee.

4 (5) The chair of the Louisiana Board of Regents or his designee.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall work to identify whether a
6 method exists or can be created to accurately model the dispersion of carbon dioxide injected
7 into the subsurface strata and determine the feasibility of acquiring and utilizing such a
8 method to assess the risks and rewards of allowing carbon sequestration in specific locations
9 within the state.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if no existing model exists to predict with a
11 ninety-five percent degree of certainty the potential behavior and movement of the captured
12 carbon dioxide in all types of soil, rock, sediment, and other subsurface substrate layers
13 where Class VI wells may be permitted, the task force shall:

14 (1) Establish a timeline wherein state scientific and higher education researchers can
15 develop, beta test, and field test such a method to model the behavior of carbon dioxide.

16 (2) Determine the cost of purchasing the method and training state personnel to use
17 the method.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that by July 1, 2025, the task force shall report its
19 initial findings regarding whether a method currently exists that can accurately and
20 effectively model and predict with a ninety-five percent degree of certainty the behavior of
21 buried carbon dioxide to the speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of
22 the Senate or whether a method must be developed.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the initial findings show that a method does
24 not currently exist the task force shall also provide its timeline to develop and test a method
25 to accurately and effectively model and predict the potential behavior and movement of the
26 captured carbon dioxide in all types of soil, rock, sediment, and other subsurface substrate
27 layers where Class VI wells may be permitted.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
29 secretary of the Louisiana Department of Energy and Natural Resources, the secretary of the

- 1 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, and the chair of the Louisiana Board of
- 2 Regents.

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)]

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Owen

Creates a special task force to evaluate the existing capacity of government and industry to model the behavior of geologically sequestered carbon dioxide and to develop a method to model the behavior of geologically sequestered carbon dioxide if none exists. Requires the task force to report its initial findings to the legislature by July 1, 2025.