
DIGEST

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HB 499 Original

2026 Regular Session

McCormick

Abstract: Establishes minimum per acre compensation for nonconsenting landowners within a carbon dioxide storage unit.

Present law (R.S. 30:1104.2(C)) requires a unitization order to provide for just and equitable compensation for all owners in interest and the storage operator. Present law also requires the order to provide for the method, formula, or other basis to determine the just and equitable share of the benefits.

Proposed law retains present law but sets a minimum for any per acre compensation paid to a nonconsenting unit participant, so that nonconsenting owners in interest cannot be paid less than the average per acre compensation to all other owners in interest in the unit.

Present law (R.S. 30:1104.2(D)) authorizes the operator of a proposed storage unit or any owner in interest who has not entered into a contract with the proposed storage unit operator to have the court review whether the purpose for the storage unit is public and necessary, whether the compensation is just, and, if not, the amount of just compensation due. Specifies that the court's review in those instances is limited to the compensation affecting the specific owner in interest seeking review. Specifies that a jury trial on the matter may be requested, and the proceeding will be conducted by preference.

Proposed law retains present law and permits the court to request information necessary to determine compensation for an owner in interest.

(Amends R.S. 30:1104.2(C) and (D))