

SENATE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

2026 Regular Session

Amendments proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to Original Senate Bill No. 171 by Senator Pressly

1 AMENDMENT NO. 1

2 On page 1, delete lines 3 and 4 and insert , "2352, 2353(B), 2354(A)(1), (B)(1) and (4),
3 (D)(1), and (E)(1), 2355(A)(1) through (4), (B)(6) and (10), and (C), the introductory
4 paragraph of 2356(A), 2356(A)(2), and (B)(2) and (5), and (C), 2358, 2359(B), (D)(2), and
5 (E)(1)(a), and 2360(C) and to repeal R.S. 38:2353(D)"

6 AMENDMENT NO. 2

7 On page 1, delete lines 10 through 13 and insert the following:
8 "Section 1. R.S. 38:5.1(A), 20(A) and (B), 84(A) and (B), 2351(A) and (B), 2352,
9 2353(B), 2354(A)(1), (B)(1) and (4), (D)(1), and (E)(1), 2355(A)(1) through (4), (B)(6) and
10 (10), and (C), the introductory paragraph of 2356(A), 2356(A)(2), and(B)(2) and (5), and
11 (C), 2358, 2359(B), (D)(2), and (E)(1)(a), and 2360(C), are hereby amended and reenacted
12 to read as follows:"

13 AMENDMENT NO. 3

14 On page 3, line 8, after "for" delete "upland" and insert "upland non coastal"

15 AMENDMENT NO. 4

16 On page 4, line 2, after "in the" delete "upland" and insert "upland non coastal"

17 AMENDMENT NO. 5

18 On page 4, delete line 21 and insert the following"
19 (2) "Upland Non coastal area" means all land in the state of Louisiana that
20 is not included within the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2.
21 (3) "Upland Non coastal parishes" means all parishes of the state, in whole
22 or in part, that are not included within the coastal area as defined in R.S. 49:214.2.
23 These areas are primarily affected by riverine flooding, watershed management,
24 inland navigation, and flood control infrastructure rather than coastal erosion or sea
25 level rise.

26 AMENDMENT NO. 6

27 On page 4, delete lines 25 through 29 and on page 5 delete lines 1 through 11 and insert the
28 following:

29 ~~"B.(1) The Coordinated Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy,~~
30 ~~Navigation, and Transportation Authority Board shall consist of no more than sixteen~~
31 ~~members, selected by the governor, representing the following:~~
32 ~~(a) The Red River Waterway District, nominated by the commission.~~
33 ~~(b) The office of multimodal commerce. The commissioner shall serve until,~~
34 ~~or without, express gubernatorial designation of an alternative.~~
35 ~~(c) Statewide flood protection. The chief resiliency officer shall serve until,~~
36 ~~or without, express gubernatorial designation of an alternative.~~
37 ~~(d) Louisiana Economic Development. The secretary of the department shall~~
38 ~~serve until, or without, express gubernatorial designation of an alternative.~~
39 ~~(e) The North Louisiana Economic Partnership. The executive director shall~~
40 ~~serve until, or without, express gubernatorial designation of an alternative.~~

* * *

(4) At least seven days prior to each hearing the board shall publish a notice of the hearing in the official journal of each parish within the area of the hearing. The notice of a hearing shall have been published in the official journal of each parish in the upland non coastal area prior to the final scheduled public hearing. The board may provide for additional public hearings when necessary upon at least three days notice published in the official journal of the parishes in the area of the hearing and written notice to the parish governing authorities.

* * *

D.(1) Where feasible, the master plan shall include scientific data and other reasons, including but not limited to the social, geographic, economic, engineering, and biological considerations as to why each project or program was selected for inclusion. Specifically, an explanation shall be included as to how each project or program advances the plan objectives with respect to the protection, conservation, enhancement, and development of the upland non coastal area.

* * *

E(1) After adoption by the board, the master plan shall be submitted 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 meeting jointly for approval. In addition, the annual plan shall be submitted 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 on or before the fifteenth day of the regular legislative session of each year. The committees shall take action on the annual plan on or before June first of each calendar year.

* * *

§2355. Functions and responsibilities; Coordinated Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation Authority Board

A. The board shall:

(1) Represent the state's position on policy relative to the protection, conservation, enhancement, and management of the upland non coastal area of the state through oversight of integrated projects and programs and by addressing activities which could significantly affect integrated projects and programs, all consistent with the legislative intent as expressed in this Title.

(2) Develop, coordinate, make reports on, and provide oversight for a comprehensive upland non coastal area master plan and annual plans, working in conjunction with state agencies, political subdivisions, including flood protection authorities, levee districts, and federal agencies. The master plan shall include a comprehensive strategy addressing the protection, conservation, enhancement, and management of the upland area through the construction and management of integrated projects and programs, all consistent with the legislative intent as expressed in this Chapter. The annual plan shall be developed as the annual implementation of the comprehensive master plan and shall be submitted to the legislature for approval as set forth in R.S. 38:2354. The annual plan shall include a description and status of all projects and programs pertaining to the authority's mission, including privately funded projects or plans, and addressing those activities which significantly affect projects set forth in the plan, all consistent with the legislative intent as expressed in this Title.

(3) Submit 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 meeting jointly, the integrated plans developed pursuant to R.S. 38:2354. Upon approval of the plans by the legislative committees and prior to implementation of the plans, in whole or in part, the plans shall be approved by the legislature as provided in R.S. 38:2354(E).

(4) Develop procedures in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and take actions against any entity, including political subdivisions, to enforce compliance with the comprehensive master upland non coastal area plan. Such procedures and actions may include but are not limited to determinations of noncompliance; appeal from such determinations; the taking of administrative

1 action, including the withholding of funds; and civil action, including the seeking of
2 injunctive relief, or any other remedy necessary to ensure compliance with the plan.

3 * * *

4 B. The board may:

5 * * *

6 (6) Approve all requests for programs and projects in the upland non coastal
7 area, insofar as such requests are for funds to be appropriated from the funds
8 available to the authority.

9 * * *

10 (10) Enter into any agreement with a parish governing authority located
11 wholly or partially within the coastal area but which is not part of a levee district for
12 the construction, operation, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, or replacement of any
13 upland non coastal protection, conservation and restoration, hurricane protection,
14 infrastructure, storm damage reduction, integrated coastal protection, or flood control
15 project. The board shall have the power to provide in the agreement for the use and
16 exercise by the parish governing authority of all powers of levee districts or levee
17 and drainage districts.

18 C. Approval by the board shall be required for any request by a state agency
19 or department for any funds to finance research, programs, mitigation, or projects
20 involving integrated protection, including hurricane protection or the conservation
21 and restoration, of upland non coastal areas. However, this Subsection shall not
22 affect self-generated or dedicated funds.

23 * * *"

24 AMENDMENT NO. 8

25 On page 5, after line 29, insert the following:

26 " * * *

27 (2) ~~Serve as the implementation arm of the Statewide Flood Control Program~~
28 ~~in R.S. 38:90.1 et seq., and for other functions of the department outside of the~~
29 ~~coastal area. The authority shall be~~ **Be** directed by the policy set by the Coordinated
30 Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation
31 Authority Board."
32

33 AMENDMENT NO. 9

34 On page 6, between line 10 and 11 insert the following:

35 "(5) The executive director, or in his discretion a subordinate or subordinates,
36 shall administer the programs, projects, and activities approved for funding by the
37 Coordinated Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and
38 Transportation Authority Board relating to and affecting an integrated upland non
39 coastal system, including conservation, restoration, creation, and enhancement of
40 upland non coastal areas, storm damage reduction, flood control, infrastructure,
41 economic development, and navigation in Louisiana's ~~uplands area~~ non coastal
42 areas as provided by law and as provided in the master and annual plans, and other
43 special programs as may be directed by the board.

44 * * *

45 C. Nothing in this Chapter shall be construed to diminish or impair the
46 constitutional, statutory, or contractual authority of any levee district, drainage
47 district, navigation district, or port commission operating within the upland non
48 coastal area. The authority shall coordinate with such entities to the greatest extent
49 practicable."

50 AMENDMENT NO. 10

51 On page 6, line 19, after "within the" delete "upland" and insert "upland non coastal"

52 AMENDMENT NO. 11

53 On page 6, after line 20, insert the following:

1 "§2359.Functions and responsibilities; Coordinated Use of Resources for
2 Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation Authority

3 * * *

4 B. The authority shall implement projects in the upland non coastal area as
5 approved by the board and consistent with the legislative intent of this Chapter.
6 However, no project shall be undertaken except those included in an annual plan
7 finally approved by the legislature in accordance with the provisions of R.S.
8 38:2354, regardless of the source of funds for the project, except in cases of projects
9 undertaken and financed out of the emergency fund, established in the annual plan.
10 An emergency for which such fund shall be used shall be defined by the Coordinated
11 Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation
12 Authority Board and all funds shall be spent only in accord with procedures
13 established by the authority board for such fund. All projects undertaken pursuant
14 to the provisions of this Chapter shall be either funded through the Statewide Flood
15 Program, the state general fund, or other sources of funding available to the
16 authority, including but not limited to direct federal aid, grants, gifts, and other
17 donations received by the state for the purposes of this Chapter.

18 * * *

19 D. The authority may:

20 * * *

21 (2) Acquire by purchase, donation, or otherwise any land rights needed for
22 integrated upland non coastal area projects and other property required for the
23 operation of the projects that are to be owned and operated by the office or political
24 subdivision of the state; provided, that any property acquired for any project may
25 reserve the minerals to the landowners, whether private or public, in accordance with
26 the provisions of R.S. 31:149.

27 * * *

28 E.(1) The board or the authority shall be authorized to solely utilize the
29 science and technology capacity of Louisiana universities, the water institute, and
30 other institutes within the state to enhance programs, projects, and activities for the
31 following purposes:

32 (a) To identify any uncertainty related to the physical, chemical, geological,
33 biological, or cultural baseline conditions in the upland non coastal area.

34 * * *

35 §2360. Infrastructure priority program; applications; evaluations

36 * * *

37 C. The applications submitted by agencies shall be evaluated by the board
38 which shall hold no less than three public hearings in separate locations within the
39 upland non coastal area for the purpose of receiving public testimony and comment
40 from requesting authorities and citizens regarding the proposed infrastructure
41 projects. Such hearings may be held at the same time and location as hearings set for
42 public comment on the annual plan. The authority shall prioritize and rank such
43 applications. The authority shall provide its application evaluations to the board.

44
45 Section 2. R.S. 38:2353(D) is hereby repealed."