
DIGEST

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HB 670 Reengrossed

2026 Regular Session

Owen

Abstract: Permits Louisiana Economic Development to support the recruitment, retention, and expansion of wood pellet manufacturing facilities in this state within existing statutory authority and subject to the availability of funds.

Proposed law provides for legislative findings and intent.

Proposed law defines "wood pellet manufacturing".

Proposed law directs Louisiana Economic Development to support the recruitment, retention, and expansion of wood pellet manufacturing facilities in this state within existing statutory authority and subject to the availability of funds, and to develop policies, guidance, or program criteria consistent with existing economic development programs, when appropriate and within existing authority including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Prioritizing and enhancing job creation incentives for wood pellet manufacturing facilities.
- (2) Establishing workforce development and training initiatives for wood pellet manufacturing facilities.
- (3) Coordinating with ports regarding infrastructure needs associated with wood pellet manufacturing cargo.
- (4) Establishing site readiness criteria for wood pellet manufacturing.
- (5) Providing clear regulatory pathways for the development of wood pellet manufacturing facilities throughout this state.

(Adds R.S. 51:955.1 and 955.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Commerce to the original bill:

1. Make technical changes.
2. Amend proposed law mandating that La. Economic Development (LED) prioritize wood

pellet manufacturing to permitting LED to support recruitment, retention, and expansion of wood pellet manufacturing facilities in this state within existing authority and subject to the availability of funds, and to develop policies consistent with existing economic development programs, when appropriate and within existing authority.

3. Amend proposed law directing LED to promulgate related rules and regulations, including prioritizing wood pellet cargo for loading and processing at ports to permitting LED to develop policies, guidance, or program criteria, including coordinating with ports regarding wood pellet cargo.

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the engrossed bill:

1. Amend the definition of "wood pellet manufacturing" from only forestry residues to also include the production of compressed biomass pellets from biomass including but not limited to forest and agriculture residues, thinnings, and storm damaged residues.