

---

 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)]

---

SB 367 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Edmonds

Proposed law establishes the Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund (fund) to support the reclamation, restoration, and long-term stewardship of lands and watersheds within the Amite River Basin impacted by sand and gravel mining operations, with priority given to flood-prone areas and impaired watersheds.

Present law provides for allocation of severance tax revenues collected on sand.

Proposed law retains present law provisions and adds requirement for the treasurer to deposit into the fund 100% of the portion of recurring severance tax revenues collected on sand severed from within the boundaries of the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District (district) that would have otherwise been deposited into the state general fund after the allocations of revenue required by present law.

Proposed law provides that monies in the fund be invested in the same manner as monies in the state general fund with interest earned on investment of monies in the fund credited to the fund and any unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year remaining in the fund.

Present law authorizes the board of the Amite River Basin Commission (board) to manage and control the watersheds within the district to establish adequate drainage, flood control, and water resources development, including the construction of reservoirs, diversion canals, gravity and pumped drainage systems, and other flood control works. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law requires appropriation of monies in the fund to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority for disbursement to the board of the district for use as provided in present and proposed law.

Proposed law requires the board to submit an annual report detailing the receipts, expenditures, and funded activities of the fund to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.

(Adds R.S. 38:3310)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the original bill

1. Change the purpose of the fund to stewardship of lands and watersheds within the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District.
2. Provide for the transfer, deposit, and uses of monies in the fund.
3. Authorize the legislature to appropriate monies from the fund to the board of commissioners of the Amite River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District for any purpose authorized pursuant to proposed law.
4. Remove provisions allocating severance tax revenues.
5. Remove provisions providing eligibility criteria for entities to receive monies from the fund.

6. Remove provisions requiring the secretary of conservation and energy to administer the fund and reporting requirements.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Limit scope of proposed law to support of reclamation, restoration, and stewardship of lands impacted by sand and gravel mining operations, with priority given to flood-prone areas and impaired watersheds.
2. Require deposit of 100% of recurring severance tax revenues collected on sand severed from within the district that would have been deposited into the state general fund into the fund.
3. Require appropriation of monies in the fund to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority for disbursement to the board of the district.
4. Require annual report detailing receipts, expenditures, and activities financed by the fund.
5. Change effective date from Aug. 1, 2026, to July 1, 2026.
6. Make technical changes.