

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 144

BY REPRESENTATIVE OWEN

ENERGY: Requests that the Board of Regents provide for a rigorous, peer-reviewed study on the potential effects of mixing streams of carbon captured from industrial sites and the air on the water supply and ecological environment and submit reports to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Board of Regents to take all such actions as are necessary to provide  
3 for a rigorous, peer-reviewed study on the potential direct and indirect effects of  
4 mixing various streams of carbon captured from industrial sites and directly from the  
5 air on Louisiana's water supply and ecological environment and to submit a series  
6 of written reports to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment.

7 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana has enacted laws permitting certain  
8 activities involving the permanent subsurface injection of carbon dioxide; and

9 WHEREAS, there is a need for comprehensive risk analysis in complex geological  
10 settings across Louisiana, especially in high priority areas under consideration for permanent  
11 injection sites, such as in southeastern, southwestern, western, and northeastern Louisiana;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, some have raised questions about the potential effects of these activities  
14 in terms of public health, groundwater protection, and ecological harm; and

15 WHEREAS, it is imperative to prioritize academic research on these potential  
16 effects.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
18 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Board of Regents to take all such  
19 actions as are necessary to provide for a rigorous, peer-reviewed study on the potential direct

1 and indirect effects of mixing various streams of carbon captured from industrial sites and  
2 directly from the air on Louisiana's water supply and ecological environment.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall provide for, at a minimum, the  
4 following:

5 (1) Analysis of whether there should be concern over the mixing of multiple carbon  
6 dioxide streams from disparate industrial sources in the same or communicating subsurface  
7 geological zones, including potential physical, chemical, and rock-matrix interactions,  
8 pressure effects, and risks of unintended communication via faults, fractures, or stratigraphic  
9 and hydrologic pathways.

10 (2) Analysis of whether the current structural and regulatory framework for  
11 oversight of these injection activities in Louisiana is sufficient to protect underground  
12 sources of drinking water and the broader ecological environment, and, if not, the study  
13 should include specific, actionable recommendations for optimization or improvement,  
14 including any needed coordination among the Department of Environmental Quality, the  
15 Department of Conservation and Energy, federal agencies, and other entities.

16 (3) Analysis grounded in the actual purity levels, impurity profiles, and stream  
17 compositions contained in Class VI well permit applications already submitted by project  
18 applicants to the state, rather than any notional, generic, or hypothetical carbon dioxide  
19 stream data.

20 (4) Coordination, as appropriate, with the Louisiana Geological Survey, the  
21 Louisiana state geologist, the United States Geological Survey, and the United States  
22 Environmental Protection Agency for data access and technical input, while maintaining full  
23 independence in findings and conclusions.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall submit the following  
25 to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment:

26 (1) An initial report summarizing preliminary findings and data-gathering status no  
27 later than January 1, 2027.

28 (2) An interim report with substantive analysis and preliminary recommendations  
29 no later than June 1, 2027.

1 (3) A final, comprehensive, peer-reviewed research report with complete findings,  
2 hazard rankings, recommendations, and any supporting modeling no later than June 1, 2028.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents shall notify the House  
4 Committee on Natural Resources and Environment of any participating institutions and a  
5 plan for the completion of the study no later than forty-five days after the adoption of this  
6 Resolution.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
8 chairman of the Board of Regents, the commissioner of higher education, the secretary of  
9 the Department of Environmental Quality, and the secretary of the Department of  
10 Conservation and Energy.

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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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HR 144 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Owen

Requests that the Bd. of Regents provide for a rigorous, peer-reviewed study on the potential effects of mixing streams of carbon captured from industrial sites and from the air on the state's water supply and ecological environment and submit the following written reports to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment:

- (1) An initial report summarizing preliminary findings and data-gathering status no later than Jan. 1, 2027.
- (2) An interim report with substantive analysis and preliminary recommendations no later than June 1, 2027.
- (3) A final, comprehensive, peer-reviewed research report with complete findings, hazard rankings, recommendations, and any supporting modeling no later than June 1, 2028.

Requests that the Bd. of Regents notify the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment of any participating institutions and a plan for the completion of the study no later than 45 days after the adoption of this Resolution.