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## DIGEST

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HB 509 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Owen

**Abstract:** Requires a hearing to receive public comments in every parish in which a Class VI injection well permit is proposed. Further requires public notice of draft permits and local public hearings and a public comment period on the draft permit that lasts at least 30 days following the notice.

Present law for public hearings to be conducted pursuant to the provisions of present law (R.S. 30:6) and notice to be provided to the governing authority of any affected parish in which a carbon sequestration project is proposed.

Present law further provides that the secretary hold hearings when requested in writing and to give substantial consideration to comments received from the local government when taking action in any matter requiring a public comment period or public hearing.

Proposed law retains present law and adds a requirement for a hearing to be held to receive public comments in parishes in which Class VI permit applications have been filed prior to issuance of a permit.

Proposed law further requires that the department provide public notice of the issuance of any draft permit and public notice of the hearing to receive public comments required by proposed law.

Proposed law requires the department to provide a public comment period of at least 30 days following the public notice required by proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 30:1105(E))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

1. Remove local public hearing requirements for Class V wells related to carbon dioxide sequestration projects.
2. Remove requirement that the public hearing required by proposed law be held during the public comment period.

3. Remove the prohibition against holding the local public hearing required by proposed law from December 20<sup>th</sup> to January 1st.
4. Add requirements that the department provide public notice of draft permits and local public hearings required by proposed law.
5. Add requirement that the department provide a public comment period of at least thirty days following the public notice required by proposed law.