

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 315

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

WATER/RESOURCES: Urges and requests the Department of Conservation and Energy to study the establishment of groundwater conservation districts for the Chicot, Southern Hills, and Mississippi aquifer systems

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Conservation and Energy to study the establishment  
3 of groundwater conservation districts for the Chicot, Southern Hills, and Mississippi  
4 aquifer systems and to submit a written report of its findings to the House Committee  
5 on Natural Resources and Environment prior to the convening of the 2027 Regular  
6 Session of the Legislature.

7 WHEREAS, the increasing use of water for municipal, industrial, agricultural,  
8 recreational, and other purposes is a matter of great public interest; and

9 WHEREAS, the unregulated use of groundwater from the aquifer systems of the state  
10 may create critical and irreversible problems and crucial shortages; and

11 WHEREAS, the public welfare of Louisiana's citizens requires that these vital water  
12 sources be put to the highest beneficial use; and

13 WHEREAS, a comprehensive water management plan has been a topic of debate for  
14 many years inside and outside of the legislature, but one still has not been adopted; and

15 WHEREAS, the legislative auditor found that Louisiana lacks a statewide water  
16 management plan, which would help the state better regulate and value surface water; and

17 WHEREAS, the audit further found that the delay in developing a statewide plan has  
18 been caused by the lack of a water code and the need for data on water use; and

1           WHEREAS, a more robust regulatory process is needed and the establishment of  
2 conservation districts for the aquifer systems could provide the much needed oversight for  
3 the use of the waters of the state.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Conservation and  
6 Energy to study the establishment of groundwater conservation districts for the Chicot,  
7 Southern Hills, and Mississippi aquifer systems and to submit a written report of its findings  
8 to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment prior to the convening of  
9 the 2027 Regular Session of the Legislature.

10           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the study should consider the use of water for  
11 municipal, industrial, agricultural, recreational, and other purposes in Louisiana and how the  
12 allocation and costs of that water is being managed and overseen and whether groundwater  
13 conservation districts may be utilized in the process.

14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
15 secretary of the Department of 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 315 Original

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Marcelle

Urges and requests the Dept. of Conservation and Energy to study the establishment of groundwater conservation districts for the Chicot, Southern Hills, and Mississippi aquifer systems and to submit a written report of its findings to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment prior to the convening of the 2027 R.S. of the Legislature.