

SENATE BILL NO. 367

BY SENATOR EDMONDS

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 38:3310, relative to the Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund; to
3 provide for establishment of the fund; to provide for a purpose; to provide for the
4 transfer, deposit, and use of monies in the fund; to provide with respect to the Amite
5 River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District; and to provide for an
6 effective date; to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 38:3310 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 **§3310. Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund**

10 **A. There is hereby established in the state treasury a special fund to be**
11 **known as the "Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund", hereinafter**
12 **referred to in this Section as the "fund".**

13 **B. The purpose of the fund shall be to support the reclamation,**
14 **restoration, and long-term stewardship of lands and watersheds within the**
15 **Amite River Basin impacted by sand and gravel mining operations, with**
16 **priority given to flood-prone areas and impaired watersheds.**

17 **C. After allocation of money to the Bond Security and Redemption Fund**
18 **as provided in Article VII, Section 9(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana, the**
19 **treasurer shall deposit into the fund one hundred percent of the portion of**
20 **recurring severance tax revenues collected on sand severed from within the**
21 **geographic boundaries of the district that would have been deposited into the**
22 **state general fund after allocations of such revenues otherwise required by the**
23 **Constitution of Louisiana and the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950. Monies**
24 **designated for the fund and received by the state treasurer from donations,**
25 **gifts, grants, or other revenue shall be deposited into the fund.**

26 **D. Monies in the fund shall be invested in the same manner as monies in**

1 the state general fund. Any interest earned on the investment of monies in the
2 fund shall be credited to the fund. Unexpended and unencumbered monies in
3 the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund.

4 E. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the Coastal Protection
5 and Restoration Authority for use by the board of commissioners for the Amite
6 River Basin Drainage and Water Conservation District for use as provided in
7 Subsection B of this Section.

8 F. An annual report detailing the receipts, expenditures, and funded
9 activities of the Watershed Restoration and Conservation Fund shall be
10 submitted by the board to the House Committee on Natural Resources and
11 Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources by March first
12 of each calendar year.

13 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2026.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____