

ACT No. 656

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 595

BY REPRESENTATIVE JACOB LANDRY

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 30:4.4, relative to development of the state's natural resources; to prohibit
3 local governing authorities from taking actions that impede the state's ability to
4 develop natural resources, including local road permitting; and to provide for related
5 matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 30:4.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §4.4. Exclusive jurisdiction

9 It is the intent of the legislature that this Subtitle vests the department with
10 exclusive jurisdiction over the natural resources of the state, including but not limited
11 to regulations, permitting, and related fee schedules. No other political subdivision,
12 local governing authority, or municipal or parochial permitting body may use
13 inaction on local permitting decisions to unreasonably interfere with activities
14 permitted by the department. Any application for a local road permit related to a
15 department-permitted activity which has not been approved or denied, with written
16 reasons for denial provided to the applicant, within thirty days of submission shall
17 be deemed approved.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____