

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 358 (SB 171)

2026 Regular Session

Pressly

Existing law provides the Department of Public Works, state of Louisiana provides planning assistance to municipal, parish, regional and other planning agencies of the state and is authorized to apply for and accept grants of money from the U.S. government or any federal agencies and may contract with them as necessary to accept the grant and any requirements for matching the grants. New law retains existing law and changes the agency from the Department of Public Works, state of Louisiana to the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD).

New law provides the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development will be a member appointed to the Red River Compact Commission. New law changes the member from the chief engineer of the office of engineering to the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.

Existing law provides parishes and municipalities authorized to comply with federal flood insurance may adopt, ordinances, rules, and regulations, including zoning and land use regulations, necessary to comply with the requirements of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 in coordination with the chief resilience officer of DOTD. New law retains existing law and removes the chief resilience officer's designee.

New law provides the chief resilience officer of DOTD will cooperate with the Federal Insurance Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the planning and carrying out of state participation in the National Flood Insurance Program and will aid, advise, and cooperate with parishes and municipalities attempting to qualify for participation in the program. New law retains existing law and removes chief resilience officer of DOTD as the designee.

New law changes terminology from "upland" area to "noncoastal" area.

Existing law provides the Coordinated Use of Resources for Recreation, Economy, Navigation, and Transportation Authority also known as the "authority", is established as the single coordinating entity responsible for prioritizing, planning, and funding projects related to flood control, risk reduction, navigation, and water resource management in all areas of the state not included within the coastal area. New law retains existing law and changes terminology from "risk reduction" to "flood risk reduction", and changes from "water resource management" to "floodplain and watershed management".

Existing law provides the authority will implement policy addressing issues related to water quantity, flood risk mitigation, navigation, economic development, and recreation. New law changes terminology from "water quantity" to "watershed management" and adds "floodplain management" to the responsibilities of the authority.

Existing law provides the definition of "integrated" as the coordinated planning, funding, construction, and operation of flood control, navigation, recreation, water management, and economic development projects to ensure efficient use of resources, minimize conflicts, and promote sustainable development. New law retains existing law and adds "floodplain management" to the definition. New law further changes from "water management" to "watershed management" in the definition. New law further provides for the definition of the term "upland" to be replaced by the term "noncoastal".

Existing law provides the board shall have 16 members. New law retains existing law. New law further provides certain members of the authority are subject to Senate confirmation and serve as members of the board unless a gubernatorial designee is appointed to serve.

Existing law provides the secretary of LED will be a member of the authority and serve as a nonvoting member until gubernatorial designation of an alternative. New law provides the agency authority member will change from secretary of LED to the executive director of CPRA.

Existing law provides for board members from ports located within the upland parishes. New law retains existing law and changes from one member to no more than two members from noncoastal parishes.

Existing law provides the board will not consist of more than two levee boards. New law changes from two levee boards to three levee districts.

New law provides for technical changes.

Existing law provides adoption by the board of the master plan after submission to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works for approval. In addition, the annual plan shall be submitted to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works on or before the fifteenth day of the regular legislative session of each year. New law removes the provision for submission to House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and instead receive approval at a meeting of the House and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

Existing law provides the board is responsible for overseeing riverine flood management, inland navigation, and water resource infrastructure within the noncoastal area. New law retains existing law and changes the responsibility from water resource infrastructure to flood control infrastructure and changes from the term "upland" to "noncoastal".

Effective August 1, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 38:5.1(A), 20(A) and (B), 84(A) and (B), 2351(A) and (B), 2352, 2353(B), 2354(A)(1), (B)(1) and (4), (D)(1), and (E)(1), 2355(A)(1)-(4), (B)(6) and (10), and (C), 2356(A)(intro para),(A)(2), and(B)(2) and (5), and (C), 2358, 2359(B), (D)(2), and (E)(1)(a), and 2360(C); repeals R.S. 38:2353(D))