

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 724

BY REPRESENTATIVE CORMIER

COASTAL RESOURCES: Provides relative to guidelines for granting coastal use permits

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 49:214.27(F), relative to coastal use permits; to require a full review of a
3 federally mandated environmental impact statement prior to the issuance of a coastal
4 use permit; to prohibit state recognition of any waivers granted under a federally
5 mandated environmental impact statement; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 49:214.27(F) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §214.27. Coastal management programs; development; guidelines

9 * * *

10 F.(1) In the interest of sound environmental decisions based on the best
11 science available and in the interest of the economic benefit provided to the state of
12 Louisiana by its coastal natural resources, no applicant shall be granted a coastal use
13 permit for a project requiring a federal environmental impact statement under the
14 provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq., unless
15 the project is fully reviewed under all sections and provisions of the environmental
16 impact statement required by the federal permitting agency. Any waivers obtained
17 for any sections or provisions of the federally required environmental impact
18 statement shall not be recognized for purposes of issuing a Louisiana coastal use
19 permit.

1 (2) In the event an application meets the requirements of this Subsection,
2 nothing in this Subsection shall be construed to preclude the department from
3 conducting an analysis of an application for a coastal use permit.

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)]

HB 724 Original

2020 Regular Session

Cormier

Abstract: Provides relative to guidelines for granting coastal use permits.

Present law provides for guidelines to be used by the coastal management program in the Dept. of Natural Resources for the issuance of coastal use permits.

Proposed law prohibits the issuance of a coastal use permit for a project requiring a federal environmental impact statement unless the project is fully reviewed under all sections and provisions of that environmental impact statement. Further provides that any waivers obtained under the federally required environmental impact statement shall not be recognized for purposes of issuing a La. coastal use permit. Further provides that proposed law cannot be construed to preclude the department from conducting an analysis of an application for a coastal use permit.

(Adds R.S. 49:214.27(F))