

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 104

BY SENATOR FRED MILLS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the State Bond Commission, the division of administration, and rate setting authorities to request and consider an applicant's sewerage system compliance status with the Louisiana Department of Health and the Department of Environmental Quality and financial status with the legislative auditor as a component of their review process.

WHEREAS, community sewerage systems are a major element of public infrastructures and essential for everyday life, with wastewater treatment facilities in North America processing approximately sixty gallons per person, per day; and

WHEREAS, even though community sewerage systems are critical components to our society and public health, aging and outdated systems may have fallen into a state of disrepair over the years due to lack of maintenance and needed upgrades and expanded capacity; and

WHEREAS, community sewerage systems needing extensive repairs or upgrades can become too costly to maintain and this can lead to less effective treatment or infrastructure failures such as leakage causing unnecessary pollution; and

WHEREAS, it is important that Louisiana residents can be assured that the quality of sewage treatment is monitored and maintained at levels essential for health, safety, welfare, and long-term sustainability; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana must develop and implement a community sewerage system accountability process which supports sewerage system infrastructure sustainability for the residents of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, there should be a system of accountability for local government authorities and other entities operating community sewerage systems and potential consequences for community sewerage systems that do not achieve state and federal standards; and

WHEREAS, there must be transparent regulatory compliance and fiscal accountability information presented to the State Bond Commission, the division of administration, and rate setting authorities for consideration in approving additional debt, capital outlay appropriations, or a rate increase.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the State Bond Commission, the division of administration, and rate setting authorities to request and consider an applicant's sewerage system compliance status with the Louisiana Department of Health and the Department of Environmental Quality and financial status with the legislative auditor as a component of their review process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the State Bond Commission, division of administration, and Public Service Commission.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE