

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 380

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

ENVIRONMENT/AIR: Creates the Real-time Fence-line Air Monitoring and Alert System Task Force

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To create the Real-time Fence-line Air Monitoring and Alert System Task Force to study the  
3 implementation of the proposed requirement in Senate Bill No. 356 of the 2026  
4 Regular Session to install real-time fence-line air monitoring and alert systems  
5 covering seventeen pollutants at the highest risk petroleum refineries and chemical  
6 manufacturing facilities.

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality's mission is to  
8 provide comprehensive environmental protection in order to promote and protect human  
9 health, safety, and welfare; and

10 WHEREAS, Article IX, Section I of the Constitution of Louisiana requires the  
11 legislature to enact laws to protect, conserve, and replenish the natural resources of the state,  
12 including the air, insofar as possible and consistent with the health, safety, and welfare of  
13 the people; and

14 WHEREAS, clean air is essential for human health, ecological balance, and  
15 economic stability; and

16 WHEREAS, Louisiana is blessed with a convergence of natural resources: plentiful  
17 petroleum, natural gas, water, forests, fisheries, and avenues of transportation, including the  
18 Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico; and

19 WHEREAS, the petrochemical industry is a major economic engine for our state,  
20 employing many of Louisiana's citizens, supporting small businesses, and contributing, both

1 directly and indirectly, substantial revenue to the tax rolls of state and local governments;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, industry and government must cooperate to ensure that Louisiana's  
4 economic productivity does not come at the expense of human health and a clean  
5 environment; and

6 WHEREAS, air pollution presents serious risks to health, including maternal,  
7 reproductive, and newborn health harms; chronic and acute respiratory illnesses; heart  
8 disease and stroke; cancer; and premature death; and

9 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Agency's National Air Toxics Assessment  
10 found areas of Louisiana have the highest modeled risk of cancer from industrial air  
11 pollution in the United States, more than seven times the national average and a 2025 Johns  
12 Hopkins University study using air monitoring data found those cancer risks are  
13 underestimated by at least a factor of ten; and

14 WHEREAS, Louisiana residents have the nation's highest rate of exposures to serious  
15 accidental chemical releases, resulting in deaths, injuries, ordered evacuations, or  
16 shelter-in-place orders, more than twice the rate in Texas; and

17 WHEREAS, Louisiana has the nation's highest concentration of petrochemical  
18 plants, chemical manufacturing facilities, and petroleum refineries permitted under Title V  
19 of the Clean Air Act, and reducing toxic air emissions and their negative consequences  
20 would bolster public health and economic growth; and

21 WHEREAS, communities located near industrial facilities may be disproportionately  
22 impacted by air pollution and its many adverse effects; and

23 WHEREAS, Environmental Protection Agency-recommended, commercially  
24 available real-time open-path air monitoring systems required by Senate Bill No. 356 of the  
25 2026 Regular Session are capable of simultaneously detecting and reporting concentrations  
26 of up to one hundred pollutants at distances up to one thousand meters and these monitoring  
27 systems are in operation throughout the country demonstrating their feasibility, reliability,  
28 accuracy, and cost-effectiveness; and

29 WHEREAS, open-path real-time fence-line air monitoring systems have been  
30 documented to reduce toxic air emissions; help first responders prevent life-threatening

1 exposures and adverse health impacts; provide local officials and residents with continuous,  
2 accurate real-time information and early warnings enabling informed decision-making; and  
3 save industry millions of dollars in reduced worker deaths and injuries, property damage,  
4 and product loss; and

5 WHEREAS, air monitoring of industrial emission sources is critically important to  
6 safeguard public health and protect the environment.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
8 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby create the Real-time Fence-line Air Monitoring and  
9 Alert System Task Force charged with the responsibility to study the need for and  
10 implementation of the proposed requirements contained in Senate Bill No. 356 of the 2026  
11 Regular Session to install and operate real-time open-path monitoring and alert systems,  
12 specifically the costs and benefits of implementation of such systems to public health,  
13 affected chemical manufacturing facilities and petroleum refineries, and the Louisiana  
14 Department of Environmental Quality.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Real-time Fence-line Air Monitoring and  
16 Alert System Task Force shall be composed of the following members:

- 17 (1) The secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality, or her designee.  
18 (2) The assistant secretary of the office of public health, within the Louisiana  
19 Department of Health, or her designee.  
20 (3) The secretary of the Department of Conservation and Energy, or his designee.  
21 (4) A member appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives.  
22 (5) A member appointed by the chairman of the House Committee on Natural  
23 Resources and Environment.  
24 (6) A member appointed by the Louisiana Real-time Fence-line Monitoring  
25 Legislation Technical Team.  
26 (7) A member appointed by the president of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation.  
27 (8) A member appointed by the president of the Louisiana Chemical Association.  
28 (9) A member appointed by the president of the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and  
29 Gas Association.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force shall serve  
2 without compensation, except per diem or expenses reimbursement to which they may be  
3 entitled individually as members of their constituent organizations.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of the Department of  
5 Environmental Quality or her designee shall serve as chair of the task force and shall be  
6 responsible for providing staff to assist the task force in performing its duties.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall convene its first meeting by  
8 August 1, 2026, and at such meeting the task force shall adopt rules of procedure, a work  
9 schedule, and any additional measures that it deems necessary for the timely performance  
10 of its duties.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall submit a written report of  
12 its findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the House Committee on Natural  
13 Resources and Environment on or before February 15, 2027.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this report shall include the following:

15 (1) The effectiveness and benefits of real-time fence-line air monitoring and alert  
16 systems in providing real-time information and alerts to first responders, neighboring  
17 communities, local officials, and state regulatory agencies of air pollution threats to public  
18 health.

19 (2) Costs required to install, operate, and maintain such systems.

20 (3) Current practice regarding gathering information related to the nature, scope  
21 and magnitude of industrial accidental chemical releases and sharing of vital, actionable  
22 information with first responders, community members, and local authorities when  
23 Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality action levels or health-based thresholds are  
24 exceeded.

25 (4) Information on Senate Bill No. 356's proposed seventeen covered toxic air  
26 pollutants emitted by Louisiana's largest petroleum refineries and chemical manufacturing  
27 facilities in the state with Title V air permits and the public health impacts associated with  
28 those air pollutants.

29 (5) Information summarizing existing real-time fence-line legislation across the  
30 United States.

1           (6)     Information summarizing publicly available information regarding the costs,  
2 benefits, challenges, successes, and lessons learned associated with implementation of  
3 real-time fence-line monitoring systems at facilities across the United States. This  
4 information should include any issues associated with false alerts, emission source  
5 attribution, or any other concerns raised during the April 14, 2026 Senate Environmental  
6 Quality Committee meeting on Senate Bill No. 356.

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#### 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)]

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HR 380 Original

2026 Regular Session

Freeman

Creates the Real-time Fence-line Air Monitoring and Alert System Task Force to study the implementation of the proposed SB No. 356 of the 2026 R.S. requirement to install real-time fence-line air monitoring and alert systems covering 17 pollutants at the highest risk petroleum refineries and chemical manufacturing facilities. Requires submission of a report of study findings, conclusions, and recommendations to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment on or before Feb. 15, 2027.