

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 120

BY REPRESENTATIVE MUSCARELLO

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

WATERWAYS/LAKES: Prohibits the permitting of certain above-surface structures on Lake Maurepas and Lake Pontchartrain

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 30:4(U), relative to the authority of the commissioner of conservation; to  
3 provide for the authority of the commissioner of conservation to issue permits and  
4 orders; to provide for prohibited structures on certain scenic lakes; and to provide for  
5 related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 30:4(U) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §4. Jurisdiction, duties, and powers of the assistant secretary; rules and regulations

9 \* \* \*

10 U. In order to preserve the scenic quality of certain lakes of this state with  
11 outstanding ecological, cultural, economic, and recreational significance for the  
12 enjoyment of present and future generations, the commissioner shall not issue any  
13 order or permit pursuant to this Subtitle allowing for the construction, installation,  
14 or use of any permanent structure which may at any time protrude above the surface  
15 of the following lakes:

16 (1) Lake Maurepas.

17 (2) Lake Pontchartrain.

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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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HB 120 Engrossed

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Muscarello

**Abstract:** Prohibits the commissioner of conservation from issuing permits or orders that allow permanent above-surface structures on Lake Maurepas and Lake Pontchartrain.

Present law provides for the authority of the commissioner of conservation, including authority to issue permits and orders related to oil and gas exploration and drilling, injection wells, carbon dioxide sequestration, and other mineral-related activities.

Proposed law provides an exception to the authority of the commissioner, prohibiting the issuance of any order or permit otherwise within his authority if the order or permit would allow the construction, installation, or use of any permanent structure above the surface of Lake Maurepas or Lake Pontchartrain.

(Adds R.S. 30:4(U))