

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 161

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Environmental Quality to study providing notifications to residents and the feasibility of providing free medical monitoring after the release of toxic air emissions from major sources and provide a report of the findings to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare no later than February 1, 2018.

WHEREAS, the purity of the air in the environment is a matter of vital concern to the welfare of the people of the state and all efforts should be taken to promote an environment free from substances that jeopardize the health of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, regulations and policies for economic and industrial development should include efforts to provide citizens living in areas under threat of toxic air emissions from major sources with scientific information and resources to help them avoid negative health effects associated with an exposure to harmful substances; and

WHEREAS, the ability to protect the citizens of the state depends upon the adequacy of emergency response plans, and such plans should include rapid notification of the release of any toxic air emission to residents who live in an area affected by such emission, and should also include the latest scientific data regarding the substance released and any potential health complications associated with the emission; and

WHEREAS, such plans should also include access to free and timely medical monitoring provided to residents who have been exposed to toxic air emissions in an effort to prevent harmful and avoidable health consequences as a result of an exposure to harmful substances; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to ensure that the health and well-being of the people of Louisiana are being protected, the Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with the Louisiana Department of Health, should study the feasibility of providing timely notifications and free medical monitoring for any residents exposed to toxic air emissions from a major source.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana

**SR NO. 161**

**ENROLLED**

does hereby request the Department of Environmental Quality to study creating a notification system and a free medical monitoring program for residents exposed to a toxic air emission from a major source and provide a report of the findings to the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare no later than February 1, 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE