SLS 19RS-363 ORIGINAL

2019 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 201

BY SENATOR MIZELL

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LOCAL AGENCIES. Repeals the Washington Parish Reservoir District and authorizes the donation of any remaining property and excess funds to the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in support of the Bogue Chitto State Park. (8/1/19)

AN ACT

2 To repeal R.S. 36:509(S) and Part XXVI of Chapter 13 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S. 38:3087.191 through 3087.206, relative to the 3 Washington Parish Reservoir District; to repeal references to, provisions for, and the 4 5 powers, functions, and duties of the district and its board of commissioners; to provide for use of property and funds; and to provide for related matters. 6 7 Notice of intention to introduce this Act has been published. 8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana: 9 Section 1. R.S. 36:509(S) is hereby repealed. 10 Section 2. Part XXVI of Chapter 13 of Title 38 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 11 1950, comprised of R.S. 38:3087.191 through 3087.206 is hereby repealed in its entirety. Section 3. Any immovable or movable property and any funds that remain available 12 13 under the provision of Section 2 of this Act, shall be donated to the Secretary of the 14 Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in support of the Bogue Chitto State Park for expanding recreation. 15 16 Section 4. The Secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism shall 17 conduct a town hall meeting no later than August 1, 2020, in Washington Parish with the

legislative delegation for Washington Parish to determine what are the best options for

expansion of recreation for Washington Parish at Bogue Chitto State Park.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michael Bell.

DIGEST

SB 201 Original

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2019 Regular Session

Mizell

<u>Present law</u> establishes the Washington Parish Reservoir District. Provides that the district shall be a political subdivision of the state and shall be comprised of the area of Washington Parish.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the district's purpose is to develop the wealth and natural resources of the district by conserving soil and water for agricultural, recreational, commercial, industrial, and sanitary purposes. Provides that the district shall create and maintain lakes and reservoirs and engage in economic development.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the district shall constitute a body corporate and shall have the authority to sue and be sued, buy and sell, levy taxes, negotiate and execute contracts, and incur debt and issue negotiable bonds.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the district shall be exempt from taxation. Authorizes the district to cooperate and contract with the federal or state government or any department or agency for the construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities.

<u>Present law</u> provides that the district is governed by a board of 11 commissioners, appointed by the governor subject to Senate confirmation, who shall be qualified electors of the state residing within Washington Parish.

<u>Present law</u> prohibits any person or corporation from erecting any dam or reservoir upon any watercourse which will affect the district without the approval of the board of commissioners. Provides for penalties of not less than \$500 nor more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 60 days, or both.

Proposed law repeals present law.

<u>Proposed law</u> authorizes the donation of any immovable or movable property and any funds to the Secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in support of the Bogue Chitto State Park for expanding recreation.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the Secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism conduct a town hall meeting no later than August 1, 2020, in Washington Parish with the legislative delegation for Washington Parish to determine what are the best options for expansion of recreation for Washington Parish at Bogue Chitto State Park.

Effective August 1, 2019.

(Repeals R.S. 36:509(S) and R.S. 38:3087.191-3087.206)