2018 Regular Session

ACT No. 509

HOUSE BILL NO. 688

BY REPRESENTATIVE LYONS

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact Chapter 20 of Subtitle II of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised States
3	of 1950 comprised of R.S. 30:2501 through 2521, the heading of Part I of Chapter
4	21 of Subtitle II of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, R.S.
5	30:2531(C)(4), R.S. 47:463.43(Section Heading), and R.S. 56:10(B)(15) and to
6	repeal R.S. 30:2521 through 2530, 2537 through 2543, and 2546(D) and R.S.
7	36:239(B)(6), relative to environmental education and litter reduction; to provide
8	relative to the powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the Department of
9	Wildlife and Fisheries relative to environmental education and litter reduction; and
10	to provide for related matters.
11	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
12	Section 1. Chapter 20 of Subtitle II of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised States of
13	1950 comprised of R.S. 30:2501 through 2521, the heading of Part I of Chapter 21 of
14	Subtitle II of Title 30 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and R.S. 30:2531(C)(4) are
15	hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
16	CHAPTER 20. LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND LITTER
17	REDUCTION ACT
18	§2501. Title
19	This Chapter may be cited as the "Louisiana Environmental Education and
20	Litter Reduction Act".

§2502.	Legislative	findings
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A. It is in the public interest that a comprehensive and balanced environmental education initiative be undertaken that will result in environmentally literate citizens who will effectively and constructively solve existing environmental problems, prevent new ones, and maintain a sustainable environment for future generations. The appropriate audiences for environmental education include formal education, business, government, nonprofit organizations, and citizens.

- B. Characteristics of an environmentally literate citizenry must include:
- (1) An understanding of the right of every person to own, control, use, enjoy, and dispose of private property, subject only to reasonable regulation.
- (2) An understanding that the Louisiana Constitution requires the use of a balancing process in environmental protection decisions in which environmental costs and benefits must be given full and careful consideration along with economic, social, and other factors.
- (3) Ecological literacy, including a basic understanding of ecological principles and concepts and their application, the cause and effect relationship between human health and the environment, and the economics of that relationship.
- (4) Civic literacy, including a basic understanding of the decisionmaking processes of governments, business, and other social, political, and economic institutions impinging upon environmental issues.
- (5) Mathematical, technological, and scientific literacy, including an understanding of the basic concepts of mathematics and science to evaluate environmental problems and make sound decisions regarding their resolution.
- (6) Personal and social action skills, including developing and using skills such as problem solving, risk analysis, and integrating diverse perspectives to understand and contribute to decision-making processes.
- (7) Attitudes, including the expression of care for other humans, present and future, and for other components of the environment. These attitudes also affect understanding of ecology and civic responsibility.

1 (8) Motivation for action, including the commitment to act for a healthy 2 environment based on one's attitudes, knowledge, and skills. 3 C. The legislature declares that it is the intent of this Chapter to create a 4 balanced statewide environmental education program for the purpose of identifying 5 the needs and setting priorities for environmental education within the state. 6 §2503. Louisiana Environmental Education Commission; creation; membership; 7 duties 8 A.(1) There is hereby created, within the Department of Wildlife and 9 Fisheries, the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "commission". 10 11 (2) The commission shall consist of the secretary of the Department of 12 Wildlife and Fisheries or his designee, the state superintendent of education or his 13 designee, the secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality or his designee, 14 the secretary of the Department of Natural Resources or his designee, the secretary 15 of the Louisiana Department of Health or his designee, the commissioner of the 16 Department of Agriculture and Forestry or his designee, the chancellor of the 17 Louisiana State University Agricultural Center or his designee, the chancellor of 18 Southern University Agricultural and Mechanical College or his designee, and the 19 following members appointed by the governor: 20 (a) One member of the Board of Regents or his designee. 21 (b) Two members representing environmental advocacy organizations. 22 (c) Two members representing the industrial community. 23 (d) One member representing the small business community. 24 (e) One member representing local governments. 25 (f) One member of the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. 26 (g) One member who is a professional environmental scientist. 27 (h) Seven environmental educators, one from each congressional district and 28 the remaining environmental educator or educators from the state at large, to be 29 recommended by the president of the Louisiana Environmental Educators Association. 30

(i) One member of the Louisiana Science Teachers' Association.

2	(j) The secretary of the Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism or
3	his designee.
4	B. The initial term of the members of the commission shall be staggered in
5	one, two, or three-year increments. After the initial term, all future terms shall be for
6	three years. Annually, in December of each year, the commission shall elect a
7	chairman and vice chairman whose terms shall commence on the following January
8	first and end on December thirty-first.
9	C. The commission shall:
10	(1) Develop, review, approve, and transmit a plan for environmental
11	education to the governor, the legislature, and the public.
12	(2) Advise and assist the secretary of the Department of Wildlife and
13	Fisheries, the governor, the legislature, the secretary of the Department of
14	Environmental Quality, and other state agencies, including university extension
15	services, conservation and environmental organizations, community action groups
16	and nature and environmental centers on policies and practices needed to provide
17	environmental education.
18	(3) Serve as a forum for the discussion and study of problems that affect the
19	environment and environmental education.
20	(4) Assist and obtain information from various sources to coordinate the
21	environmental education programs of federal and state agencies.
22	<u>§2522.</u> §2504. Definitions
23	As used in this Part, the following words have the meanings ascribed to them
24	unless the context requires otherwise:
25	(1) "Commission" means the Louisiana Litter Reduction and Public Action
26	Environmental Education Commission.
27	(2) "Department" means the Department of Environmental Quality Wildlife
28	and Fisheries.
29	(3) "Dispose" means to throw, discard, place, deposit, discharge, burn, dump
30	drop, eject, or allow the escape of a substance.

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(4) "Litter" means all waste material except as provided and defined in R.S. 30:2173(2), including but not limited to disposable packages, containers, sand, gravel, rubbish, cans, bottles, refuse, garbage, trash, cigarettes, cigarette butts, cigars, cigarillos, cigar or cigarillo tips, debris, dead animals, furniture or appliances, automotive parts including but not limited to tires and engines, trailers, boats and boating accessories, tools and equipment, and building materials, roofing nails, or other discarded materials of any kind and description. While being used for or distributed in accordance with their intended uses, litter shall not include political pamphlets, handbills, religious tracts and newspapers, and other similar printed materials, the unsolicited distribution of which is protected by the Constitution of the United States or the Constitution of Louisiana. Litter shall not include agricultural products that are being transported from the harvest or collection site to a processing or market site if reasonable measures are taken to prevent the agricultural product from leaving the transporting vehicle. Litter shall also not include recyclable cardboard being transported in compressed bundles to processing facilities. "Agricultural product" as used in this definition means all crops, livestock, poultry, and forestry, and all aquacultural, floracultural, horticultural, silvicultural, and viticultural products. (5) "Local governing authority" means the governing authority of the parish or the governing authority of the municipality in which the littering offense was

- committed.
- (6) "Public or private property" means the right-of-way of any road or highway, levee, any body of water or watercourse or the shores or beaches thereof, any park, playground, building, refuge, or conservation or recreation area, and residential or farm properties, timberlands, or forests.
- (7) "Section" means the environmental education and litter reduction and public action section located within and acting through the Department of Environmental Quality Wildlife and Fisheries.

1	§2524. §2505. Donations and grants; Louisiana Litter Abatement Grant Program
2	A. The section is hereby authorized to accept, administer, and make use of
3	federal, state, and any local and private appropriations, any public and private grants
4	and donations, and, when it is deemed appropriate and feasible, to accept
5	nonmonetary funding in the form of services or equipment for use in connection with
6	any of the programs or purposes of this Part.
7	B.(1) The Louisiana Litter Abatement Grant Program is hereby created
8	within the section for the purpose of supporting community-based litter abatement
9	programs.
10	(2) Grants through the program shall be made available to local governments
11	and nonprofit organizations. Funding through the grant program shall be subject to
12	the availability of funds and shall be awarded on a comparative basis to be
13	determined by the section.
14	(3) The monies awarded through the grants shall be used to further the
15	administration and execution of the Keep Louisiana Beautiful Program. Allowable
16	uses of grant funding shall include but not be limited to the following:
17	(a) Keep America Beautiful fees.
18	(b) Keep America Beautiful pre-certification training, education curriculums,
19	and workshops.
20	(c) Law enforcement seminars.
21	(d) Litter surveys.
22	(e) Projects, services, activities, and operational costs of litter abatement
23	programs.
24	(f) Materials and services for program development and training.
25	(g) Direct expenditures for materials that can facilitate litter reduction,
26	recycling, waste reduction, reuse, and general solid waste management programs.
27	(h) Minimal advertising, public relations, and promotional materials
28	necessary for publicity and promotion of program activities.
29	(i) Salary of the program coordinator and staff.

1 (4) Each successful applicant shall supplement grant funds with a 2 twenty-five percent match from other sources. All matching funds must be available 3 to the program after the date of the grant award, and funds spent prior to the grant 4 award shall not be considered in fulfillment of the match requirement. 5 (5) The department, in cooperation with the section, shall promulgate rules 6 and regulations to implement this Subsection which shall include but not be limited 7 to program submission and program administration requirements. 8 §2525. Litter reduction and public action section; §2506. Environmental Education 9 and Litter Reduction Section; staff; powers and duties; cooperation; funding 10 A. There is hereby created, within the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 11 office of wildlife, the environmental education and litter reduction section which 12 shall, under the direction of its coordinator, assist the commission and perform 13 responsibilities relative to education and litter control as provided for in this Chapter. 14 Insofar as funds are appropriated, additional staff shall be allowed may be employed 15 under the direction and control of the secretary and in accordance with policies of the 16 department. 17 B. The section shall implement the provisions of this Part relative to environmental education, including the following: 18 19 (1) To administer Administer and implement environmental education 20 programs on behalf of the commission. 21 (2) Review the status of and design plans for environmental education in the 22 state regularly at the direction and with the assistance of the commission. 23 (3) To implement Implement, administer and evaluate a grants programs 24 benefiting K-12 students, graduate researchers, professional development, and other 25 initiatives supporting environmental education. 26 (3) (4) To promote Promote and aid in the establishment and assessment of 27 elementary and secondary school environmental education programs through 28 cooperation with the Department of Education and the Board of Elementary and 29 Secondary Education.

1 (4) (5) To promote Promote and aid in the development of pre-service and 2 in-service environmental education programs for environmental educators, formal 3 and non-formal, through cooperation with the Board of Regents and the state's 4 colleges and universities. 5 (5) (6) To cooperate Cooperate with state and federal agencies and the 6 private sector in developing, promoting, conducting, and evaluating programs of 7 environmental education. 8 (6) (7) To function Function as an environmental education clearinghouse 9 by doing the following: 10 (a) Reviewing and recommending environmental education materials 11 Establishing an electronic capacity to disseminate databases of 12 environmental education information, formal and non-formal, and to network with 13 interstate and federal programs. 14 (c) Cooperating with state and federal agencies and organizations in the 15 development and distribution of an environmental education newsletter. (7) (8) To promote Promote the development of cooperative environmental 16 17 education initiatives with the private sector. 18 (8) (9) To initiate Initiate, develop, implement, assess, and market 19 non-formal environmental education programs; facilitate, encourage, and support 20 multi-school district cooperative efforts to determine the need for, develop, and 21 assess environmental education curricula, promote state government and private 22 sector policy that is consistent with the environmental education strategic plan 23 established; and coordinate non-formal environmental education with elementary, 24 secondary, and postsecondary environmental education programs. 25 (9) (10) To coordinate Coordinate environmental education conferences to 26 assist in the dissemination, development, and achievement of the state's 27 environmental education goals. 28 (10) C. The section shall perform and have implement responsibilities the

provisions of this Part relative to litter control awareness, including the following:

1 as provided for in sections 2522, 2524, 2525 beginning with C., 2530, 2537-2541, 2 2547, 2548 3 (1) Develop and implement publicity, educational, and motivational 4 campaigns to build and sustain public awareness of litter and of the unacceptability 5 of littering and to create a litterless ethic. 6 (2) Serve as the coordinating agency between various government and 7 private organizations seeking to aid in litter control and reduction and recycling 8 efforts. 9 (3) Assist local governments in the adoption and revision of ordinances 10 aimed at litter control and reduction. 11 (4) Encourage, organize, and coordinate voluntary campaigns seeking to 12 focus the attention of the public on programs to control and reduce litter and increase 13 public awareness. 14 (5) Provide encouragement of and increased funds for litter cleanup and 15 collection, litter prevention, and cleanup equipment. 16 (6) Promote litter abatement and control and encourage recycling. 17 (7) Promote public awareness and education. 18 (8) Assist local governments, industries, and other organizations which aid in anti-litter efforts. 19 20 (9) Cooperate with local governments to accomplish coordination of local 21 anti-litter efforts. 22 (10)Encourage, organize, and coordinate voluntary local anti-litter 23 campaigns seeking to focus the attention and participation of the public on the laws 24 of this state enacted to control and remove litter and to provide for the recycling of 25 trash materials. 26 (11) Investigate the availability of and apply for funds from any private or 27 public source to be used for the purposes of this Part. 28 (12) Exchange information directly with judges, district and municipal 29 attorneys, Louisiana state police, and local law enforcement officers on enforcement 30 mechanics and offer technical assistance.

(13) Award grants and provide financial assistance on a local level in
accordance with rules adopted pursuant to this Part in order to achieve the purposes
of this Part and award certificates of achievement for litter abatement.

- (14) Investigate methods, and monitor effectiveness of this Part and of techniques in the control of litter and develop, encourage, and coordinate litter control within the state.
- (15) Provide an annual report to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment and the Senate Committee on Natural Resources giving details regarding the success of the section's efforts to comply with the above duties or any other duties required of it by law.
- (16) Approve and disburse financial assistance to any local government or nonprofit organization which, in written application, seeks such assistance to implement a local litter prevention or abatement program.

§2529. §2507. Removal of litter; responsibility

The duty to remove litter from receptacles placed at publicly-owned publicly owned parks, beaches, campgrounds, trailer parks, roadside parks, and other property shall remain with those state and local agencies performing litter removal within their respective jurisdictions. The duty to remove litter from litter receptacles placed on private property which is used by the public shall remain with the owner.

§2530. §2508. Anti-litter campaign; industrial and civic cooperation requested

In order to aid in the statewide anti-litter campaign authorized by this Part, the commission and the section shall may solicit the assistance and active cooperation of industry and private civic organizations which are active in anti-litter efforts with the commission and the section or a local government as approved under authority of this Part so that additional effect may be given to the campaign to eradicate litter within the state.

§2537. §2509. Adopt-a-beach program

In order to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities assigned to it under R.S. 30:2521, the section shall may develop a program to be known as "adopt-a-beach", whereby an industry or a private civic organization may adopt one mile of Louisiana

beach for the sole purpose of controlling litter along that section of beach. Included in the responsibilities of any industry or private civic organization which chooses to participate in the program shall be the following:

- (1) Development of a functional plan to influence and encourage the public to improve the appearance of the adopted section of beach.
 - (2) A general clean up <u>clean-up</u> of the area at least twice a year.
 - (3) Assistance to the section in securing media coverage for the program.

§2538. §2510. Trash bash program Community improvement program

In order to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities assigned to it under R.S. 30:2521, the section shall develop may coordinate a community improvement program known as "trash bash program", whereby an annual coordinated cleanup shall may be conducted during the spring Easter weekend encouraging local groups to clean streets, alleys, public areas, adopted roads and beaches, and state and parish highways in surrounding areas. Beautification programs shall may be conducted along with the trash bash program clean up programs at schools, public buildings and grounds, median areas, entrances to subdivisions, commercial areas, and other similar areas. Graffiti removal and excess signage removal programs shall may be held simultaneously.

§2539. §2511. Beach sweep program

In order to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities assigned to it under R.S. 30:2521, the section shall may develop a program known as "propose and encourage beach sweep program" programs whereby an annual coordinated cleanup shall cleanups may be conducted of on the state's seventy-six miles of beaches. The beach sweep program shall be conducted in September along with the other gulf states, and shall may consist of removing debris and trash while conducting data collection to ascertain sources of on marine debris.

<u>§2540.</u> §2512. Inland water cleanup

In order to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities assigned to it under R.S. 30:2521, the section shall develop a program known as " may promote and encourage inland water cleanup" cleanups whereby a waterway cleanup shall may

be conducted annually by local groups to clean rivers, bayous, lakes, streams, and other waterways encouraging beautification through proper waste disposal and handling and placement of litter receptacles at parking lots and dock sites bordering waterway entrances and exits removal of litter and debris.

§2541. §2513. Boaters' and fishermen's pledge

In order to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities assigned to it under R.S. 30:2521, the section shall develop may promote and encourage a program known as "boaters' and fishermen's pledge" whereby the program shall may be conducted asking sportsmen to sign a commitment to bring trash and debris generated in their vehicle or boat back home or to proper disposal receptacles.

§2547. §2514. Adopt-a-byway program

A. In order to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities assigned to it under R.S. 30:2521, the section shall may develop promote and encourage a program to be known as "adopt-a-byway", whereby an organization which owns, uses, or leases property adjacent to a parish maintained road may adopt a section of such road for the sole purpose of controlling litter along that section. Included in the responsibilities of any organization which chooses to participate in the program shall may be the following:

- (1) Development of a functional plan to influence and encourage the public to improve the appearance of the adopted section of the road.
 - (2) A general cleanup of the area at least twice a year.
 - (3) Assistance to the section in securing media coverage for the program.
- B. Any parish or municipality which develops an "adopt-a-byway" program shall coordinate the adoption of rules governing the program with the section.
- C. Any parish or municipality which develops an "adopt-a-byway" program may use funds received from the collection of fines provided for under the provisions of R.S. 30:2532(A) to place a sign upon a portion of a road identifying the organization which has adopted such portion of the road.
- (R.S. 30:2548(C) D. The Department of Transportation and Development may promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Section

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1	regarding the placement, construction, and maintenance of the signs provided for in
2	this Section.
3	§2548. §2515. Adopt a Water Body program
4	A. In order to fulfill the obligations and responsibilities assigned to it under
5	R.S. 30:2521, the section shall develop may promote and encourage a program to be
6	known as "Adopt a Water Body", whereby a business or a private civic organization
7	may adopt a portion of a public bayou, stream, creek, river, or lake for the sole
8	purpose of controlling litter. Included in the responsibilities of any business or
9	private civic organization which chooses to participate in the program shall be the
10	following may be as follows:
11	(1) Development of a functional plan to influence and encourage the public
12	to improve the appearance of the adopted portion of a public water body.
13	(2) A general cleanup of the area at least twice a year.
14	(3) Assistance to the section in securing media coverage for the program.
15	B. Any organization which adopts a portion of a public bayou, stream, creek,
16	river, or lake may place a sign identifying the organization on an interstate highway
17	or state highway within two hundred feet of the adopted water body upon approval
18	of the Department of Transportation and Development. Such a sign may also be
19	placed on the bank of the adopted water body with the approval of the riparian
20	landowner.
21	* * *
22	CHAPTER 21. STATEWIDE BEAUTIFICATION
23	PART I. LOUISIANA LITTER REDUCTION AND
24	PUBLIC ACTION COMMISSION VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES
25	§2531. Intentional littering prohibited; criminal penalties; simple littering prohibited;
26	civil penalties; special court costs

1	C. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall pay special court
2	costs of one hundred dollars in lieu of other costs of court and the special court costs
3	shall be disbursed as follows:
4	* * *
5	(4) Twenty-five dollars shall be paid to the state treasury for credit to the
6	Keep Louisiana Beautiful Fund Litter Abatement and Education Account.
7	* * *
8	Section 2. R.S. 47:463.43(Section Heading) is hereby amended and reenacted to read
9	as follows:
10	§463.43. Special license plates; environmental education division and litter
1	reduction section
12	* * *
13	Section 3. R.S. 56:10(B)(15) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:
4	§10. Annual report to governor; estimate of proposed expenditures; particular funds;
15	limitations on purposes for use of monies in particular funds; warrants;
16	vouchers; surplus funds
17	* * *
18	B.
19	* * *
20	(15)(a) There is hereby created within the Conservation Fund a special
21	account known as the "litter abatement and education account" which shall consist
22	of donations collected from the sale of the environmental education license plate
23	provided for in R.S. 47:463.43; revenue received by the Conservation Fund from the
24	Department of Public Safety and Corrections, office of motor vehicles as provided
25	in R.S. 32:412; revenue received by the Conservation Fund from fines for violations
26	of the provisions of Part I of Chapter 21 of Subtitle II of Title 30 as provided in R.S.
27	30: <u>2531 and</u> 2532; funds from public or private donations and any other source
28	which may specify deposit to this account; and any remaining balance in the

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Louisiana Environmental Education Fund as of August 15, 2011. The revenues shall

be subject to the same requirements as provided for other revenues placed in the

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Conservation Fund in Paragraph (1) of this Subsection. The funds in this account

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2	shall be used solely for litter abatement and enforcement; public service
3	announcements; develop, review, approve, and implement a plan for statewide
4	environmental education; for the training of operators of vehicles regarding littering;
5	to finance local littering enforcement activities in order to promote public safety,
6	order, and general welfare by making the streets, roads, rivers, streams, bayous,
7	lakes, waterways, and highways of Louisiana clean, safe, and free of debris, litter,
8	and other material falling from or being thrown from vehicles; and to award grants
9	to nonprofit organizations and public agencies for the development, dissemination,
10	and assessment of such education programs.
11	(b) The funds in this account shall be used solely for the following:
12	(i) To develop, review, approve, and implement a plan for statewide
13	environmental education.
14	(ii) To provide for environmental education grant programs in the state.
15	(iii) To develop an environmental education curriculum framework.
16	(iv) To develop guidelines for incorporating environmental education into
17	teacher education requirements.
18	(v) To develop environmental education teacher professional development.
19	(vi) To provide for formal environmental education.
20	(vii) To provide for litter abatement and enforcement.
21	(viii) To support community-based litter abatement programs.
22	(ix) To develop, disseminate, and assess litter education and awareness
23	programs and materials.
24	* * *
25	Section 4. R.S. 30:2521 through 2530, 2537 through 2543, 2546(D) are hereby
26	repealed in their entirety.

Section 5. R.S. 36:239(B)(6) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

1	Section 6. The Louisiana Law Institute is hereby directed to re-designate R.S
2	30:2505 through 2510 to be R.S. 30:2516 through 2521.
	SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
	PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
	GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

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APPROVED: _____