

# SB3081



## 104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB3081

Introduced 1/29/2026, by Sen. Paul Faraci

### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

415 ILCS 5/59.18

Amends the Environmental Protection Act. Provides that the Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission shall study and review any reports submitted to the Commission regarding the depletion or exhaustion of the Mahomet Aquifer resource due to expanding industrial withdrawals of water.

LRB104 18464 BDA 31906 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Environmental Protection Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 59.18 as follows:

6 (415 ILCS 5/59.18)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2032)

8 Sec. 59.18. Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission.

9 (a) The Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission is  
10 hereby created to study and review any reports submitted to  
11 the Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission regarding the  
12 safety of carbon capture and storage in the Mahomet Aquifer  
13 Area and any sole source aquifer project review areas  
14 designated by the United States Environmental Protection  
15 Agency. The Commission shall also study and review any reports  
16 submitted to the Commission regarding the depletion or  
17 exhaustion of the Mahomet Aquifer resource due to expanding  
18 industrial withdrawals of water. The Commission shall consist  
19 of the following members:

20 (1) the Director of the Environmental Protection  
21 Agency or the Director's designee;

22 (2) the Director of Natural Resources or the  
23 Director's designee;

1           (3) the Director of the Illinois Emergency Management  
2           Agency and Office of Homeland Security or the Director's  
3           designee;

4           (4) the Director of Agriculture or the Director's  
5           designee;

6           (5) the Attorney General or the Attorney General's  
7           designee;

8           (6) 3 members appointed by the President of the  
9           Senate, only one of whom may be a Senator;

10          (7) 3 members appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
11          Representatives, only one of whom may be a Representative;

12          (8) 3 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
13          Senate, only one of whom may be a Senator; and

14          (9) 3 members appointed by the Minority Leader of the  
15          House of Representatives, only one of whom may be a  
16          Representative.

17          All meetings of the Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study  
18          Commission shall be open to the public and shall be held within  
19          the Mahomet Aquifer Area region or within 25 miles of the  
20          region. The Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission shall  
21          maintain a website where all reports and studies submitted to  
22          or approved by the Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission  
23          shall be posted for public display. The University of Illinois  
24          shall provide administrative assistance to the Mahomet Aquifer  
25          Advisory Study Commission. No later than 90 days after the  
26          effective date of this amendatory Act of the 104th General

1 Assembly, the Commission shall hold its first meeting at the  
2 call of the Director of the Environmental Protection Agency,  
3 at which meeting the members shall select a chairperson from  
4 among themselves. After its first meeting, the Commission  
5 shall meet at the call of the chairperson. Members of the  
6 Commission shall serve without compensation. Members' terms  
7 shall be 3 years, and members may be reappointed by their  
8 respective appointing authority.

9 (b) Subject to appropriation, the Prairie Research  
10 Institute at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
11 shall submit a final report on the potential for carbon  
12 sequestration in the Mahomet Aquifer Area and any project  
13 review areas to the Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission  
14 no later than December 31, 2030. The Prairie Research  
15 Institute shall submit annual status reports by December 31,  
16 2027 and December 31 of each year thereafter until the final  
17 report is submitted on December 31, 2030. The final report  
18 shall provide an assessment of the safety and risks of carbon  
19 dioxide storage in the Mahomet Aquifer and its project review  
20 areas, including, but not limited to, any effects on human,  
21 animal, and environmental health. The report shall review  
22 carbon sequestration conducted in Illinois and other similarly  
23 situated states, particularly how carbon sequestration affects  
24 aquifers and other underground water sources. The report shall  
25 review the permitting processes and the coordination with  
26 applicable federal law or regulatory commissions, including

1 the Class VI injection well permitting process.

2 (c) The Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission shall  
3 also engage with interested stakeholders throughout the State  
4 to gain insights into safety perspectives from residents,  
5 environmental justice organizations, environmental  
6 nongovernmental organizations, representatives of industry,  
7 landowners, farm bureaus, manufacturing interests, labor  
8 unions, and others.

9 (d) The Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission shall  
10 submit a final report of its findings regarding the Mahomet  
11 Aquifer and its project review areas to the Governor and the  
12 General Assembly no later than December 31, 2031. The  
13 Commission may file status updates with the Governor and the  
14 General Assembly as determined by a majority of the members.

15 (e) The Mahomet Aquifer Advisory Study Commission is  
16 dissolved and this Section is repealed on January 1, 2032.

17 (Source: P.A. 104-119, eff. 1-1-26.)