

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 949

BY REPRESENTATIVE ILLG

TRANSPORTATION DEPT: Provides with respect to the Department of Transportation and Development enforcement

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:2(C) and to enact R.S. 32:2.1, relative to the Department of  
3 Transportation and Development Police Force; to provide for the authority and  
4 requirements of the DOTD Police Force; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 32:2(C) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 32:2.1 is hereby  
7 enacted to read as follows:

8 §2. Authority of Department of Transportation and Development

9 \* \* \*

10 C.(1) The ~~Weights and Standards Stationary Scales~~ DOTD Police Force is  
11 hereby created within the department. It may enforce the provisions of R.S. 32:380  
12 through 388.1 and 390, R.S. 47:718 and the provisions of Chapter 4 of Subtitle II of  
13 Title 47 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 relating to trucks, trailers, and  
14 semi-trailers; Part V of Chapter 7 of Subtitle II of Title 47 of the Louisiana Revised  
15 Statutes of 1950; the provisions of R.S. 32:389; and the access laws and regulations  
16 relative to controlled access highways.

17 (2) Members of the ~~Weights and Standards Stationary Scales~~ DOTD Police  
18 Force are authorized to carry weapons and to make arrests in the enforcement of  
19 these laws and regulations, or any other law of this state, and in that regard, shall  
20 have the same authority and powers conferred by law upon other commissioned law

1 enforcement officers of this state; however, no member of the ~~Weights and Standards~~  
2 ~~Stationary Scales~~ DOTD Police Force shall be authorized to carry a weapon until the  
3 member has received P.O.S.T. certification training.

4 \* \* \*

5 §2.1. Additional authority of commissioned DOTD Police Force officers

6 A. The DOTD Police Force shall have the authority to facilitate the effective  
7 protection of the assets, property, personnel, and interests relating to the Department  
8 of Transportation and Development and the state's critical infrastructure, to include  
9 all state highways, interstate and intrastate systems, bridges, and controlled access  
10 roadways, duly commissioned enforcement officers of the DOTD Police Force may  
11 carry weapons concealed or exposed while in the performance of their duties, shall  
12 take such action as is authorized by law, rule, or regulation to protect interests  
13 relating to the department's and the state's critical infrastructure, and shall be vested  
14 with the same authority and powers conferred by law upon other law enforcement  
15 officers of this state.

16 B. All DOTD Police Force officers shall be Peace Officers Standard Training  
17 (P.O.S.T.) certified.

18 C. Upon the request of any regular law enforcement agency of this state,  
19 DOTD Police Force officers shall prevent and detect crime, apprehend criminals,  
20 enforce the criminal and traffic laws of the state, keep the peace and good order in  
21 the state in the enforcement of the state's police powers, and perform any other  
22 related duties imposed upon them by the legislature.

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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 949 Original

2024 Regular Session

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**Abstract:** Provides for the authority of the DOTD Police Force within the Dept. of Transportation and Development.

Present law provides for the Weights and Standards Stationary Scales Police Force to enforce provisions of present law and to have the same authority of other law enforcement officers of this state.

Proposed law renames the Weights and Standards Stationary Scales Police Force as the DOTD Police Force but otherwise retains present law.

Proposed law provides for protection of the interests of the Dept. of Transportation and Development and the state's critical infrastructure by duly commissioned enforcement officers of the DOTD Police Force, who may carry weapons while in the performance of their duties, and take such action as is authorized by law to protect interests relating to the department's and the state's critical infrastructure, and have the same authority and powers conferred upon other law enforcement officers of this state.

Proposed law requires all DOTD Police Force officers to be P.O.S.T. certified.

Proposed law authorizes DOTD Police Force officers to perform any law enforcement duties as requested by regular law enforcement and any other duties imposed upon them by the legislature.

(Amends R.S. 32:2(C); Adds R.S. 32:2.1)