

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROWN

BRIDGES/FERRIES: Urges and requests the Department of Transportation and Development to study the feasibility of having two dedicated lanes to exit eastbound from the Horace Wilkinson Bridge

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the
3 feasibility of having two dedicated through lanes to exit eastbound from the
4 Interstate 10 Horace Wilkinson Bridge.

5 WHEREAS, the Horace Wilkinson Bridge is the highest bridge on the Mississippi
6 River and serves as a primary commuter route to more than one hundred thousand cars and
7 trucks daily; and

8 WHEREAS, the Horace Wilkinson Bridge is listed as one of the most frequent sites
9 of serious automobile accidents on bridges in the state; and

10 WHEREAS, the reduction to one lane on Interstate 10 eastbound from the Horace
11 Wilkinson Bridge is one of the leading causes of daily traffic congestion and frequent
12 accidents; and

13 WHEREAS, Interstate 10 eastbound from the Horace Wilkinson Bridge is reduced
14 from three lanes to one through lane with a single exit lane to Washington Street around a
15 sharp curve, creating hazardous situations which are heightened in case of emergency or
16 dangerous weather conditions; and

17 WHEREAS, the unsafe merge that typically occurred at the exit lane to Washington
18 Street was addressed with the addition of the Interstate 10 exit ramp to Terrace Avenue in
19 2019, creating an opportunity for the addition of two dedicated through lanes to exit
20 eastbound from the Interstate 10 Horace Wilkinson Bridge to be more feasible; and

1 WHEREAS, two dedicated through lanes to exit eastbound from the Interstate 10
2 Horace Wilkinson Bridge would increase the safety measures for vehicles in emergency
3 stops, enhance the safety of motorists, and drastically reduce the traffic congestion where
4 more than one hundred thousand cars and trucks commute daily.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6 urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the feasibility
7 of having two dedicated through lanes to exit eastbound from the Interstate 10 Horace
8 Wilkinson Bridge.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Louisiana Department of Transportation and
10 Development shall submit a report detailing the results of its study to the Legislature of
11 Louisiana not later than February 1, 2022.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department's study should consider, at a
13 minimum, the probable enhancement of safety on the bridge by having two lanes, the
14 increased curve radius from adding a lane, as well as other highway safety improvements;
15 such as enhanced delineation and friction on the dangerous curve.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
17 to the secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

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)]

HCR 36 Engrossed

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Urges and requests the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to study the feasibility of having two dedicated through lanes to exit eastbound from the I-10 Horace Wilkinson Bridge. Requires the DOTD submit a report to the legislature detailing the results of the study by Feb. 1, 2022.