

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 47

BY REPRESENTATIVES EDMONDS AND FOIL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to form a study group to recommend proposed legislation providing penalties for causing injury or death to pedestrians and bicyclists while operating a motor vehicle, and to report its findings to the Louisiana Legislature no later than February 1, 2020.

WHEREAS, United States citizens take one hundred twenty-seven million walking trips per day and nine million bicycle trips per day; and

WHEREAS, one in twelve households in the United States does not own an automobile; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, 11.9% of all trips taken by Americans were either by walking or bicycling, which was 2.4% higher than the percentage of trips taken by Americans while either walking or bicycling in 2001; and

WHEREAS, 61% of all trips made by bicycle were for recreation or exercise, but only 48% of those trips were made on a paved road; and

WHEREAS, 63% of all trips made by walking were for recreation, exercise, or dog walking, but only 33% of those trips were made on a paved road; and

WHEREAS, between 2008 and 2017, drivers in the United States struck and killed forty-nine thousand four hundred thirty people who were walking on paved roads, which averages to just under fourteen people per day, or one person every hour and forty-six minutes; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, there were over one thousand bicycle-related deaths and almost four hundred sixty-seven thousand bicycle-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, adults between the ages of fifty and fifty-nine have the highest chance of bicycle-related deaths and children and adolescents have the highest chance of bicycle-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, according to Smart Growth America's Dangerous by Design 2019 study, the Baton Rouge metropolitan area is the twelfth most dangerous metropolitan area for pedestrians in the United States and Louisiana is the fourth most dangerous state in the United States for pedestrians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana State Law Institute to form a study group to recommend proposed legislation providing penalties for causing injury or death to pedestrians and bicyclists while operating a motor vehicle.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, at a minimum, the study group should include three representatives of outdoor cycling clubs within the state of Louisiana, the Louisiana District Attorneys Association, and the Louisiana Municipal Association.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Louisiana State Law Institute shall submit a report detailing the results of its study and its recommendation for proposed legislation to the Legislature of Louisiana no later than February 1, 2020.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the Louisiana State Law Institute.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE