

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request that the Department of Transportation and Development study road conditions on Louisiana Highway 19 between north Zachary in East Baton Rouge Parish to the Mississippi state line and make recommendations on the feasibility of adding a shoulder.

WHEREAS, Louisiana Highway 19 between north Zachary to the Mississippi state line is a rural roadway and currently has minimal or no shoulder; and

WHEREAS, the narrow one lane highway is frequently traveled by motorists; and

WHEREAS, the average daily travel on Louisiana Highway 64 to Port Hudson Pride Road in the city of Zachary involves approximately ten thousand vehicles per day; and

WHEREAS, the average daily travel on Port Hudson Pride Road in the city of Zachary to the city of Slaughter involves approximately seven thousand vehicles per day; and

WHEREAS, the average daily travel in the city of Slaughter to the city of Wilson involves approximately five thousand vehicles per day; and

WHEREAS, the average daily travel in the city of Wilson to the Mississippi state line involves approximately three thousand vehicles per day; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for pavement resurfacing or rehabilitation that includes designing shoulder improvements to Louisiana Highway 19 between north Zachary to the Mississippi state line; and

WHEREAS, a shoulder is an important element in roadways and provides a sense of security enabling all drivers making emergency stops to leave the traveled roadway; and

WHEREAS, a shoulder accommodates stopped vehicles, emergency use, and provides lateral support of the subbase, base, and pavement; and

WHEREAS, the current rural roadway conditions are less safe for motorists that travel Louisiana Highway 19 between north Zachary to the Mississippi state line as there is no structural support for emergency maneuvers; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development is responsible for the upkeep of highways in Louisiana in order to ensure the safety of the citizens of this great state; and

WHEREAS, adding a shoulder on Louisiana Highway 19 between north Zachary to the Mississippi state line is imperative to enhancing the safety of the roadway.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that the Department of Transportation and Development study the road conditions on Louisiana Highway 19 between north Zachary to the Mississippi state line and detail its findings and recommendations relative to the feasibility of adding a shoulder.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development's recommendations shall consider enhancements to the safety of Louisiana Highway 19 between north Zachary and the Mississippi state line and, at a minimum, shall include the following considerations:

- (1) The feasibility of adding a shoulder.
- (2) The cost of the shoulder.
- (3) The number of accidents that have occurred on the stretch of highway that is the focus of this study, including the number of deaths and the degree of damage sustained in those accidents.
- (4) The posted speed limits.
- (5) The portions of the road with and without shoulders.
- (6) The width of all bridges and the degree and number of curves per mile with special consideration on hills, railroad tracks, and types of crossing guards.
- (7) The impact of each consideration on the safety of the highway.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development shall submit a written report to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works detailing its findings and recommendations prior to March 1, 2024.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE