

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 24

BY SENATORS CONNICK, ABRAHAM, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CLOUD,
MCMATH, PRICE, SEABAUGH AND WHEAT

ROADS/HIGHWAYS. Designates Interstate 49 as "Senator J. Bennett Johnston Jr. Memorial Highway". (8/1/26)

1 AN ACT

2 To provide relative to state highways; to designate Interstate 49 in the state of Louisiana as
3 "Senator J. Bennett Johnston Jr. Memorial Highway"; to provide for location and
4 placement of signage; to provide for restrictions on costs of materials to the
5 department; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, Interstate
8 49 in its entirety in the state of Louisiana beginning where Interstate 49 intersects with
9 Interstate 10 in Lafayette Parish, extending north through the state of Louisiana, is
10 hereby designated as "Senator J. Bennett Johnston Jr. Memorial Highway".

11 Section 2. The Department of Transportation and Development is hereby
12 directed to erect and maintain appropriate signs of this designation provided local or
13 private monies are received by the department equal to the department's actual costs
14 for material, fabrication, mounting posts, and installation of each sign, not to exceed
15 the sum of two thousand two hundred fifty dollars per sign.

16 Section 3. The provisions of this Act shall not cause any other state highway
17 designation along Interstate 49 to be repealed or replaced. The department shall not

1 **remove any state highway designations currently provided for in law along Interstate**
2 **49 due to any provision within this Act and unless specific legislation succeeding this**
3 **Act is enacted to require the removal.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

DIGEST

SB 24 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Connick

Designates I-49 in the state of La. as "Senator J. Bennett Johnston Jr. Memorial Highway".

Directs DOTD to erect and maintain appropriate signs of this designation provided certain cost restrictions are satisfied.

Provides that current Interstate 49 highway designations will not be repealed or replaced.

Effective August 1, 2026.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by SenateCommittee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works to the original bill

1. Clarifies that named portions of Interstate 49 will not be repealed or replaced.