

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 539

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOYER

TRAFFIC/VIOLATIONS: Provides relative to pedestrians walking on highways during certain periods of the day

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:216(C), relative to pedestrians on highways; to limit the time  
3 of day pedestrians can lawfully walk on highways; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 32:216(C) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §216. Pedestrians on highways or interstate highways

7 \* \* \*

8 C.(1) Notwithstanding any provisions of law to the contrary, it shall be  
9 unlawful for any pedestrian to walk on a highway with a speed limit above thirty-five  
10 miles per hour from dusk to dawn, unless wearing reflective clothing.

11 (2) It shall be unlawful for any pedestrian to cross an interstate highway,  
12 except in the case of an emergency.

13 \* \* \*

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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 539 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Boyer

**Abstract:** Prohibits pedestrians from walking on highways during certain time periods.

Present law prohibits any pedestrian from crossing an interstate highway, except in the case of an emergency.

Present law prohibits pedestrians from walking along and upon an adjacent highway if sidewalks are provided. Specifies where sidewalks are not provided a pedestrian walking on the highway must walk on the left side of the highway or shoulder when applicable, facing traffic which may approach from the opposite direction.

Proposed law retains present law and prohibits pedestrians from walking on a highway that has a speed limit above 35 mph from dusk to dawn, unless they are wearing reflective clothing.

(Amends R.S. 32:216(C))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Clarify that pedestrians are prohibited from walking on a highway that has a speed limit above 35 mph from sunrise to sunset, unless they are wearing protective clothing.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Clarify that pedestrians are prohibited from walking on a highway with a speed limit above 35 mph from dusk to dawn, unless they are wearing reflective clothing.