

SENATE STUDY REQUEST NO. 1

BY SENATOR OWEN

A STUDY REQUEST

To request the Senate Committee on Education to study the costs of installing safety barriers for carpool and bus lines at public schools with students in grades kindergarten through third.

WHEREAS, it is a well recognized fact that traffic safety at schools is a paramount consideration in carpool and bus lines; and

WHEREAS, parents are transporting kids to and from school in private vehicles more than ever before, and rely on a fast and safe way to drop off and pick up their kids; and

WHEREAS, when asked, by several studies on traffic congestion around schools, parents who choose to take their children by car cite distance, traffic hazards, time constraints, and bad weather as the most common reasons for driving their kids to school; and

WHEREAS, with a significant number of private vehicles and school buses transporting kids in school parking lots, many factors affecting traffic risks cause the potential for accidents; and

WHEREAS, many schools with students in kindergarten through third grade do not have any safety barriers in place during drop off and pick up times; and

WHEREAS, recent accidents in carpool or bus lines have caused serious injury and death to students primarily in elementary schools; and

WHEREAS, placing modern traffic barriers, delineator posts, channelizer cones, portable safety barriers, or permanent crowd control barriers will better serve the students of this state; and

WHEREAS, an in-depth study of the cost to install safety barriers for carpool and bus lines throughout the state for schools with students in kindergarten through third grade is deemed advisable.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana requests that the Senate Committee on Education study all aspects of the financial feasibility of installing safe barriers for carpool and bus lines at all public schools attended by students in kindergarten through third grade.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED a copy of this Study Request shall be transmitted to the superintendent of the state Department of Education.