

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 258

BY REPRESENTATIVE WYBLE

HIGHWAYS: Urges and requests the Department of Transportation and Development to study the expansion of a portion of Louisiana Highway 21 to four lanes

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study traffic
3 conditions on Louisiana Highway 21 from the intersection of Louisiana Highway 10
4 in Bogalusa North to the Louisiana state line and make recommendations for four
5 lane expansion and a turning lane.

6 WHEREAS, the talk of a new state highway connecting Bogalusa with Interstate 12
7 has been around for decades; and

8 WHEREAS, the expansion would go through the northshore, connecting Louisiana
9 Highway 40 and Louisiana Highway 41 south of Bogalusa and Louisiana Highway 434 north
10 of Lacombe; and

11 WHEREAS, the expansion of the interstate to four lanes would improve access
12 between Interstate 12 and the northeastern portion of Louisiana; and

13 WHEREAS, the expansion of the interstate would also provide an additional
14 hurricane evacuation route from the New Orleans and Northshore areas; and

15 WHEREAS, the alternative four lane expansion of Louisiana Highway 21 will
16 alleviate traffic congestion and promote safe traveling; and

17 WHEREAS, the four lane expansion of Interstate 12 has been on the states
18 infrastructure project list to be funded with Louisiana's gasoline tax for over thirty years; and

19 WHEREAS, the state has finally fully funded Interstate 12 with a completion date
20 of by the end of 2024; and

1 WHEREAS, Louisiana Highway 3241 promises to be a vital artery for Bogalusa, by
2 giving the city access to the interstate via Louisiana Highway 21, which widens to four
3 lanes; and

4 WHEREAS, the widening of these lanes may become a safety hazard to schools
5 along the highway with no turning lanes; and

6 WHEREAS, turning lanes can improve safety and efficiency on highspeed roadways
7 and reduce the delay experienced by drivers who need to make a turn; and

8 WHEREAS, Varnado High School on Louisiana Highway 21 and Main Street will
9 be affected by the expansion of the highway; and

10 WHEREAS, to promote safety a turning signal is vital as the expansion of Louisiana
11 Highway 21 will have an impact on the flow of traffic in the school zone during certain peak
12 times; and

13 WHEREAS, although the four lane expansion of Louisiana Highway 21 will bring
14 great benefits to motorists it is also necessary to take precautionary measures to prevent
15 future conflicts and the addition of the turning lane is one way to accomplish that end.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and
18 Development to study traffic conditions on Louisiana Highway 21 from the intersection of
19 Highway 10 in Bogalusa North to the Louisiana state line and make recommendations for
20 the four lane expansion and a turning lane.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and
22 Development shall submit a report detailing its findings to the House Committee on
23 Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation,
24 Highways, and Public Works by August 1, 2025.

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

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)]

HR 258 Original

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Wyble

Urges and requests the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to study traffic conditions on La. Hwy. 21 from the intersection of La. Hwy. 10 in Bogalusa North to the La. state line and make recommendations for extensions and a turning lane to promote safety and prevent traffic congestion. Requires the DOTD to submit a written report detailing its findings to the House and Senate transportation committees by Aug. 1, 2025.