

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 499

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAMBURG

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 32:57(A)(1), (H), and (I) and to enact R.S. 32:57(J), relative to traffic offenses occurring in construction zones and utility work safety zones; to provide specific monetary penalties for exceeding the speed limit or breaching a construction zone or work safety zone when employees are present; to provide for specific monetary and confinement penalties if motor vehicle violations occur in a highway safety corridor; to provide for definitions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 32:57(A)(1), (H), and (I) are hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 32:57(J) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§57. Penalties; alternatives to citation

A.(1) Except as provided in Paragraph (2) of this Subsection and Subsections H and I of this Section, the first violation of the provisions of this Chapter or any regulation of the department, secretary, and commissioner made pursuant thereto shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred seventy-five dollars or by imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or both, unless otherwise specifically provided. A subsequent violation shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars or by imprisonment for not more than ninety days, or both.

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H. If a person operating a motor vehicle exceeds the speed limit or breaches a construction zone or utility work safety zone on the portion of a highway or road

1           which is under active construction or maintenance and construction or utility workers  
2           are on site, or which is in the process of being repaired and construction or utility  
3           workers are on site, the fine shall be ~~twice the standard fine imposed~~ not less than  
4           five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars.

5           I. If a person operating a motor vehicle violates the provisions of this  
6           Chapter while on the portion of a highway which is designated as a highway safety  
7           corridor pursuant to R.S. 32:267, the fine shall be ~~twice the standard fine imposed~~  
8           not less than seven hundred fifty dollars nor more than one thousand dollars, or  
9           imprisonment for not more than thirty days, or both, unless otherwise specifically  
10          provided.

11          J. For purposes of Subsections H and I of this Section, the following words  
12          shall have the following meanings:

13               (1) "Construction zone" shall mean an area of a highway with construction,  
14               maintenance, or utility work activities marked by temporary traffic control devices  
15               consisting of signs, channelizing devices, barriers, pavement markings, and work  
16               vehicles.

17               (2) "Utility work safety zone" shall mean an area where utility companies  
18               are actively performing work such as digging, installing, or repairing underground  
19               or overhead utilities marked by temporary traffic control signs.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_