

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 333 (HB 1072)

2026 Regular Session

Bourriague

Prior law (R.S. 48:196(C)) required that monies appropriated from the State Hwy. Improvement Fund be exclusively used by the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) for funding projects for any road which is part of the state hwy. system but not part of the federal system and ineligible for federal hwy. funding assistance.

New law transfers the monies appropriated from the State Hwy. Improvement Fund from being exclusively used by the DOTD to the office of La. Hwy. Construction (OLHC).

Existing law (R.S. 49:220.51) creates the OLHC within the office of the governor to be responsible for the study, planning, engineering, design, construction, operation, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of any nonfederal aid hwy. that is part of the state hwy. system.

New law authorizes the OLHC to enter into agreements with the DOTD for the design, construction, remediation, rehabilitation, or replacement of any segment of a federal-aid hwy. if no federal funds are used for the work as permitted by federal law. Requires the agreement outline the scope of the work, funding allocations, and regulatory compliance standards required for the administration of federal-aid hwy. projects.

Existing law (R.S. 49:220.52(C)(2)) provides for certain powers, duties, and responsibilities of the OLHC.

New law authorizes the OLHC to solicit and administer, in addition to receive, interagency transfers, state general fund allocations, or any other sources of funding allowed under the law necessary to support the delivery of its functions.

Prior law (R.S. 49:220.52(C)(4)) authorized the OLHC to engage and utilize emergency procurement procedures until Jan. 1, 2026.

New law extends the office's ability to utilize emergency procurement procedures from Jan. 1, 2026, to Dec. 31, 2027.

New law (R.S. 49:220.54) specifies that in emergency cases, when certified by the executive director, the requirements of bidding for the OLHC projects may be waived to meet the minimum demands of the emergency. Further specifies that upon the executive director's recommendation, certain resources may be negotiated and made without requesting bids, except for purchases or leases, which must be in writing with the explicit reasons supporting the necessity of the leases or purchases. Authorizes the executive director to waive bidding for necessary emergency purchases to temporarily repair certain damages to nonfederal aid hways. and associated components that are under the control of the OLHC until permanent repairs can be made.

Effective May 22, 2026.

(Amends R.S. 48:196(C) and R.S. 49:220.51(D) and 220.52(C)(2) and (4); Adds R.S. 49:220.51(E) and 220.54)