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## DIGEST

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Quezaire

HB No. 132

**Abstract:** Authorizes the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to utilize the design-build method for any transportation infrastructure project in an area impacted by a hurricane.

Present law authorizes the secretary of DOTD, with approval of the House and Senate transportation committees, to implement a pilot program to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of combining the design and construction phases of a transportation facility, including but not limited to highways, interchanges, or bridges into a single contract.

Present law limits the department to utilizing the design-build method to construct the new Mississippi River Bridge at St. Francisville (connection to US 61), including approach structures and connecting roadways, and one additional project selected by the secretary; however, the cost of the additional project shall not exceed \$5 million.

Proposed law retains present law but additionally authorizes the department to utilize the design-build method for any transportation infrastructure project in an area impacted by a hurricane, including those areas where infrastructure is adversely impacted by increased population and traffic as a result of a hurricane.

(Adds R.S. 48:250.4)