

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 490

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLMOTT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

HIGHWAYS/INTERSTATE: Restricts the use of improved openings and crossovers or  
turnarounds on interstate highways

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 32:82(A), relative to divided highways; to provide for usage of  
3 improved openings and crossovers on interstate highways; to provide for exceptions;  
4 and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 32:82(A) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §82. Driving on divided highways

8 A.(1) Whenever any highway has been divided into two roadways by a  
9 median, physical barrier, or clearly indicated dividing section so constructed as to  
10 impede vehicular traffic, every vehicle shall be driven only upon the right hand  
11 roadway and no vehicle shall be driven over, across, or within the median, barrier,  
12 or section, except through an improved opening or at a ~~cross-over~~ crossover or  
13 intersection established under authority of this Chapter.

14 (2) No vehicle, other than an authorized vehicle, shall be driven through or  
15 use an improved opening or crossover on any interstate highway. For the purposes  
16 of this Paragraph, "authorized vehicle" means "authorized emergency vehicles", as  
17 defined in R.S. 32:1, and towing and recovery vehicles operating under the direction  
18 of a law enforcement agency.

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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)]

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HB 490 Original

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**Abstract:** Prohibits the driver of any vehicle, other than an authorized vehicle, to drive through or use any improved opening or crossover on any interstate highway.

Present law requires that every vehicle be driven only upon the right hand roadway when any highway has been divided into two roadways by a median, physical barrier, or clearly indicated dividing section.

Present law prohibits any vehicle on divided highways from driving over, across, or within the median, barrier, or dividing section, except through an improved opening or at a crossover, or intersection.

Proposed law retains present law and prohibits the driver of any vehicle other than an authorized vehicle to drive through or use any improved opening or crossover on any interstate highway.

Proposed law specifies that for the purposes of proposed law "authorized vehicle" means "authorized emergency vehicles", as defined in present law (R.S. 32:1), and towing and recovery vehicles operating under the direction of a law enforcement agency.

Present law provides for penalties for traffic violations as follows: First offense, not more than \$175 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days, or both. Subsequent offense, not more than \$500 or imprisonment of not more than 90 days, or both. If the violator is other than an individual, the fine is double and no imprisonment. Proposed law retains present law.

(Adds R.S. 32:82(A))