2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 67

BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT

TRAFFIC/SPEED LIMITS: Urges and requests the Department of Transportation and Development to study safe speeds on Hwy. 20 from the city limits of Thibodaux northbound to Hwy. 304

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the
3	appropriateness of safe school zone speeds on Highway 20 from the city limits of
4	Thibodaux northbound to Highway 304 and Chackbay Elementary School.
5	WHEREAS, speed limits are established to enhance safety by reducing the risks
6	associated with the actions of irresponsible drivers; and
7	WHEREAS, a speed limit that is appropriate for the particular road and its setting
8	increases the safety of any place for passage; and
9	WHEREAS, R.S. 32:63 authorizes the Department of Transportation and
10	Development to employ its engineering and other staff to perform traffic studies and surveys
11	for purposes of establishing safe speed limits considering the conditions of roadways; and
12	WHEREAS, speed zone studies consider various factors, such as the development
13	of the area, roadway features, traffic volume, accidents, and the speed vehicles are traveling;
14	and
15	WHEREAS, school buses, 18-wheelers, and many other commercial vehicles
16	traverse highways in the state daily and when these vehicles travel at increased speeds they
17	can negatively impact driver behavior and increase traffic and fatalities; and
18	WHEREAS, a school guard was fatally killed while performing work duties in the
19	school zone for the Chackbay Elementary School; and

1	WHEREAS, school zones are designed to keep children safe as they arrive at and
2	leave school; and
3	WHEREAS, the school zone for the Chackbay Elementary School is currently forty
4	miles per hour; and
5	WHEREAS, reduced speed limits in school zones will help to minimize injuries and
6	deaths; and
7	WHEREAS, dedicated traffic control signals or signs will help to enhance highway
8	safety and facilitate orderly movement of traffic while also potentially avoiding injuries and
9	accidents; and
10	WHEREAS, the installation of traffic control signals may interrupt extremely heavy
11	flows of traffic and permit the crossing and turning of vehicles that could not otherwise
12	move safely through the intersection; and
13	WHEREAS, given the safety concerns associated with school zones, Louisiana may
14	need to take steps to ensure safety of children in school zones and persons working and
15	traveling said highway by setting proper speed limits in the appropriate areas and if
16	necessary, changing existing speed limits that are not appropriate to the location; and
17	WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the state of Louisiana to provide for the safety
18	of its citizens to the best of its ability.
19	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
20	urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the
21	appropriateness of safe school zones on Highway 20 from the city limits of Thibodaux
22	northbound to Highway 304 and Chackbay Elementary School.
23	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department's study shall include a
24	determination of the need for traffic control signals or signs on Highway 20 at Cascade
25	Drive.
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and
27	Development shall submit a written report detailing its findings to the Louisiana House of
28	Representatives and the Louisiana Senate prior to March 1, 2022.
29	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the
30	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)]

HCR 67 Engrossed

2021 Regular Session

Fontenot

Urges and requests the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to study the appropriateness of safe school zones on Hwy. 20 from the city limits of Thibodaux northbound to Hwy. 304 and Chackbay Elementary School and the need for traffic control signals or signs on Hwy. 20 at Cascade Drive. Requires the DOTD to submit a written report detailing its findings to the La. House of Representatives and the La. Senate prior to March 1, 2022.