

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 258

BY REPRESENTATIVE WYBLE

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study traffic conditions on Louisiana Highway 21 from the intersection of Louisiana Highway 10 in Bogalusa North to the Louisiana state line and make recommendations for four lane expansion and a turning lane.

WHEREAS, the talk of a new state highway connecting Bogalusa with Interstate 12 has been around for decades; and

WHEREAS, the expansion would go through the northshore, connecting Louisiana Highway 40 and Louisiana Highway 41 south of Bogalusa and Louisiana Highway 434 north of Lacombe; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the interstate to four lanes would improve access between Interstate 12 and the northeastern portion of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of the interstate would also provide an additional hurricane evacuation route from the New Orleans and Northshore areas; and

WHEREAS, the alternative four lane expansion of Louisiana Highway 21 will alleviate traffic congestion and promote safe traveling; and

WHEREAS, the four lane expansion of Interstate 12 has been on the states infrastructure project list to be funded with Louisiana's gasoline tax for over thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the state has finally fully funded Interstate 12 with a completion date of by the end of 2024; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana Highway 3241 promises to be a vital artery for Bogalusa, by giving the city access to the interstate via Louisiana Highway 21, which widens to four lanes; and

WHEREAS, the widening of these lanes may become a safety hazard to schools along the highway with no turning lanes; and

WHEREAS, turning lanes can improve safety and efficiency on highspeed roadways and reduce the delay experienced by drivers who need to make a turn; and

WHEREAS, Varnado High School on Louisiana Highway 21 and Main Street will be affected by the expansion of the highway; and

WHEREAS, to promote safety a turning signal is vital as the expansion of Louisiana Highway 21 will have an impact on the flow of traffic in the school zone during certain peak times; and

WHEREAS, although the four lane expansion of Louisiana Highway 21 will bring great benefits to motorists it is also necessary to take precautionary measures to prevent future conflicts and the addition of the turning lane is one way to accomplish that end.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study traffic conditions on Louisiana Highway 21 from the intersection of Highway 10 in Bogalusa North to the Louisiana state line and make recommendations for the four lane expansion and a turning lane.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development shall submit a report detailing its findings to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works by August 1, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES