

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 220

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRAUD

HIGHWAYS: Urges and requests the Department of Transportation and Development to study Geaux Pass toll functions, accessibility to the public, potential improvements to Geaux Pass customer service, causes for the delay in the commencement of Geaux Pass for the Belle Chasse bridge project, and recommend improvements for future projects

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the
3 benefits of providing easier access of Geaux Pass toll passes to the public; to study
4 the benefits of creating a Geaux Pass local office in Belle Chasse, potential
5 improvements to Geaux Pass customer service, and causes for the delay in the
6 commencement of Geaux Pass for the Belle Chasse bridge project; to provide
7 recommendations to improve for future projects, similar to the Belle Chasse Bridge
8 project; and to study integrating Geaux Pass with the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway
9 and other states' tolling systems.

10 WHEREAS, Geaux Pass is a Louisiana toll tag that is linked to a prepaid account,
11 which allows the driver to pass through toll facilities without having to stop to pay the tolls;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, there are three bridges with tolls in Louisiana, namely: the Belle Chasse
14 Bridge, the Louisiana 1 Highway Bridge, and the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway Bridge; and

15 WHEREAS, Geaux Pass has only one customer service center in Golden Meadow,
16 which is over ninety miles away from the town of Belle Chasse; and

17 WHEREAS, the distance from Belle Chasse and the Geaux Pass local office is an
18 inconvenience to the citizens of Belle Chasse needing customer service assistance; and

1 WHEREAS, Geaux Pass toll rates on the Belle Chasse bridge for residents is 25 cents
2 and \$1.13 for nonresidents and can be as high as \$7.57 in each direction; and

3 WHEREAS, those without a Geaux Pass toll are required to pay \$2.26 and can pay
4 as high as \$8.67 in each direction; and

5 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Highway 1 Bridge toll for vehicles is \$4.50 and can be
6 as high as \$21.00 for 6-axle vehicles in only one direction; and

7 WHEREAS, those without a Geaux Pass toll tag are required to pay between \$5.40
8 and \$21.90; and

9 WHEREAS, the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway bridge toll for vehicles starts at \$6.00
10 and can be as high as \$26.00 for vehicles with seven or more axles; and

11 WHEREAS, the Belle Chasse and the Louisiana Highway 1 bridge tolls are managed
12 in part by the state of Louisiana; and

13 WHEREAS, the commencement of Geaux Pass for the Belle Chasse bridge project
14 was delayed a number of times, resulting in issues with funding the project; and

15 WHEREAS, the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway Bridge is managed by the Causeway
16 Commission; and

17 WHEREAS, drivers with Geaux Pass toll tags may not automatically use the tag on
18 the Causeway Bridge; and

19 WHEREAS, Geaux Pass uses "open road tolling" technology; and

20 WHEREAS, the study of Geaux Pass toll passes can improve access to the public by
21 creating additional offices and integrating Geaux Pass with other tolling systems.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
23 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and
24 Development to study the ways Geaux Pass tolls can be more effective and accessible to the
25 public through the creation of more local offices and integration with other toll systems.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and
27 Development's study of Geaux Pass tolls passes shall include the following:

28 (1) The feasibility of Geaux Pass toll tags becoming operable with other states toll
29 tags.

1 (2) The effectiveness of the different states' toll tag systems used throughout the
2 United States.

3 (3) The feasibility of Geaux Pass assuming the operation of all toll facilities in the
4 state of Louisiana to provide uniformity.

5 (4) The feasibility of lower administrative costs to the state of Louisiana by making
6 Geaux Pass the sole toll system.

7 (5) The benefits of establishing a Geaux Pass local office in Belle Chasse.

8 (6) The ways to improve Geaux Pass customer service for the public.

9 (7) The causes for the delay in the commencement of Geaux Pass for the Belle
10 Chasse bridge project.

11 (8) The potential improvements for future projects, similar to the Belle Chasse
12 Bridge project, and recommendations for achieving them.

13 (9) A report of the monthly and yearly revenue generated by the Geaux Pass toll
14 system for the Belle Chasse Bridge.

15 (10) A report on the type and frequency of issues drivers experience using open road
16 tolling across the country.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and
18 Development shall submit a written report to the House Transportation, Highways and
19 Public Works committee prior to January 15, 2026.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
21 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)]

HR 220 Engrossed

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Braud

Urges and requests the Dept. of Transportation and Development to study the feasibility of creating more Geaux Pass local offices, specifically in Belle Chasse; integrating the Geaux Pass system with other toll systems throughout La. and the U.S.; potential improvements to Geaux Pass customer service; causes for the delay in the commencement of Geaux Pass for the Belle Chasse bridge project; provide recommendations to improve future projects; and report the revenue generated by Geaux Pass tolls to fund the La. 1 Expressway. Requires the department to make a written report to the House transportation committee prior to Jan. 15, 2026.