

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 45

BY REPRESENTATIVE BOURRIAQUE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To authorize and direct the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD), through the office of transformation and in collaboration with executive staff, to conduct a thorough evaluation and provide recommendations on district alignments, maintenance facilities, and laboratory operations to consider establishing a district construction engineer role reporting to the district administrator to strengthen project oversight; to direct the office of transformation to focus on facilitating continued project delivery during the transition period; and to express support for organizational and operational reforms necessary to ensure the effective and timely delivery of infrastructure projects; and to encourage coordination with other state and regional agencies to expand access to federal infrastructure funding, particularly in underserved and rural areas.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development plays a critical role in the construction, maintenance, and delivery of transportation infrastructure and services across the state; and

WHEREAS, the office of transformation, together with the DOTD, is tasked with implementing a significant and complex package of reforms aimed at modernizing departmental operations and improving project delivery; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the office of transformation, within the DOTD, is to modernize operations, implement data-driven improvements, and streamline organizational functions; and

WHEREAS, the DOTD currently operates through nine geographic districts, each responsible for the oversight, maintenance, and execution of transportation infrastructure projects in their region; and

WHEREAS, the DOTD also manages a network of maintenance facilities and laboratory operations essential to project delivery and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the DOTD currently relies on a single statewide bridge maintenance crew to address critical structural repairs and preservation needs across Louisiana, yet the scale and urgency of statewide infrastructure demands exceed the capacity of a single crew, creating gaps in timely response, maintenance coverage, and long-term asset preservation; and

WHEREAS, the uninterrupted delivery of infrastructure projects is critical to public trust, workforce continuity, and economic development during a period of internal reform; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a district construction engineer position reporting directly to the Chief Construction and Materials Engineer, would provide dedicated oversight of construction quality, project scheduling, contract compliance, and coordination with the department's central office, thereby ensuring alignment with statewide priorities; and

WHEREAS, the reform to end state taxation on construction projects funded by the Transportation Trust Fund represents a positive step toward maximizing available funding for infrastructure investment; and

WHEREAS, a menu of additional funding mechanisms linked to project delivery goals includes: achieving a target percentage of a set letting goal for the fiscal year to unlock supplemental funding for backlog reduction and achieving ninety-five percent progress for projects in the program to similarly unlock additional resources; and

WHEREAS, the DOTD shall focus on a statewide program managed by the Materials and Testing Section aimed at improving the quality and extending the life of asphalt as a key component of the department's Quality Assurance Program, further supporting the objective of ensuring consistent project delivery, asset preservation, and long-term infrastructure resilience; and

WHEREAS, improved coordination between the DOTD, regional transportation planning organizations, the office of rural development, and the governor's office of intergovernmental affairs is essential to increasing access to federal infrastructure funding in underserved and rural areas of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to increasing access to federal infrastructure funding in underserved and rural areas of Louisiana and must be prioritized as a core component of a statewide transportation strategy; and

WHEREAS, during the DOTD's restructuring process, maintaining consistent project letting and sustaining opportunities for the contracting community are critical to Louisiana's infrastructure economy, and a commitment to improving year-over-year letting totals and closing identified funding gaps would help ensure stability, transparency, and public confidence in the department's operations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby authorize and direct the Department of Transportation and Development, through its office of transformation and in collaboration with executive staff, to conduct a thorough evaluation and provide recommendations on project delivery improvements, district alignments, statewide bridge maintenance crews, maintenance facilities, and laboratory operations, and to report its findings to the legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development shall submit a written report detailing its findings and recommendations to the House and Senate Transportation committees prior to the 2026 Regular Session.

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

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE