

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL NO. 351

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEOPOLD AND WESLEY BISHOP AND SENATOR MORRELL

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

TRANSPORTATION: Requires highly traveled bridges to receive certain treatment within the highway priority system

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 48:229(B), relative to the highway priority construction
3 program; to provide relative to priorities for bridges within the proposed program of
4 construction for highways; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 48:229(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

7 §229. Priority reports on current construction projects

8 * * *

9 B. In fixing priorities, the department shall consider primarily the condition
10 of the roads, streets, and structures making up the state highway system and the
11 relative urgency of the improvements considering in their order general needs, traffic
12 volume, accident records, technical difficulties in the preparation of plans and the
13 procurement of rights-of-way, as well as unforeseeable emergencies such as floods.
14 In fixing priorities, the department shall also consider and include capacity
15 improvements in geographic areas where population has grown or traffic volume has
16 increased and capacity improvements are necessary. In fixing priorities for bridges,
17 the department may give higher priority to bridges with high volumes of traffic.

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)]

Leopold

HB No. 351

Abstract: Provides that the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) shall give bridges with high traffic volumes higher priority while setting priorities for the program of highway construction for the ensuing fiscal year.

Present law provides that DOTD shall provide the legislature with a program of construction for highways to be commenced in the ensuing year, which is to be based on the anticipated revenues to be appropriated by the legislature and listed in an order of priority of projects for each of the 12 functional classifications of state highways.

Present law provides that the order of priorities are to be based on an illustrative list of factors.

Present law further provides that DOTD shall consider certain conditions in fixing priorities.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that in fixing priorities for bridges, DOTD may give higher priority to bridges with high volumes of traffic.

(Amends R.S. 48:229(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Modified proposed law to specify that DOTD may, rather than shall, give higher priority for bridges with high traffic volumes when fixing priorities.