

Existing law provides for the adoption and specifications of a manual for a uniform system of traffic control devices. Such uniform system shall correlate with, and so far as possible conform to, the system current as approved by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration (FHA).

New law provides for the adoption of a supplement to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) with specifications and guidelines permitting parish governing authorities to request signs along state and federal highways within their boundaries be bilingual and display terms in both English and La. French.

New law provides for a process by which a parish governing authority may formally adopt the supplement prior to erecting signs. In the event the FHA does not approve the bilingual supplement, the supplement must be returned to the governing authority of the parish which requested it. The parish governing authorities may adopt the supplement as it was submitted to the U.S. Dept. of Transportation, FHA, but are prohibited from erecting such bilingual signs on state or federal highways within the parish. Requires signs installed on parish roads shall be at the expense of the parish.

Existing law provides for the authority of the Council for the Development of French in La. (CODOFIL).

New law authorizes CODOFIL to provide and approve La. French terms for the bilingual language supplement to the MUTCD to be produced by DOTD.

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 32:235(A); Adds R.S. 25:651(C)(7))