

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 645

BY REPRESENTATIVE CONNICK

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

HIGHWAYS: Restricts the use of toll credits on certain highways

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 48:79, relative to toll credits; to require toll credits to be utilized in a certain  
3 manner; and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 48:79 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

6 §79. Toll credits

7 A.(1) The department shall utilize toll credits generated by past toll  
8 collections on the Crescent City Connection Bridge and not obligated on or before  
9 April 3, 2015, to meet the nonfederal share requirement on transportation  
10 infrastructure projects on the Crescent City Connection Bridge itself, the Westbank  
11 Expressway or its approaches, the Fourth Street extension, or any combination  
12 thereof, and for no other purpose.

13 (2) Toll credits shall be considered a supplemental funding source and not  
14 as a replacement for any other form of state transportation funding.

15 B. For purposes of this Section, "toll credit" means a financing tool approved  
16 by the Federal Highway Administration that allows states to use federal obligation  
17 authority without the requirement of nonfederal matching dollars.

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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)]

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HB 645 Reengrossed

2015 Regular Session

Connick

**Abstract:** Requires the Dept. of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to utilize toll credits generated by past toll collections on the Crescent City Connection Bridge for transportation infrastructure projects on the bridge itself, the Westbank Expressway or its approaches, the Fourth Street Extension, or any combination thereof.

Proposed law requires DOTD to utilize toll credits generated by past toll collections on the Crescent City Connection Bridge and not obligated on or before April 3, 2015, to meet the nonfederal share requirement on transportation infrastructure projects on the Crescent City Connection Bridge itself, the Westbank Expressway or its approaches, the Fourth Street Extension, or any combination thereof, and for no other purpose.

Proposed law provides that toll credits shall be considered a supplemental funding source and not as a replacement for any other form of state transportation funding.

Proposed law defines "toll credit" as a financing tool approved by the Federal Highway Administration that allows states to use federal obligation authority without the requirement of nonfederal matching dollars.

(Adds R.S. 48:79)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works to the original bill:

1. Remove a provision requiring toll credits generated by a tolled transportation facility to be utilized solely for highway projects on or in the vicinity of the facility where the toll was collected.
2. Add a provision to require the Dept. of Transportation and Development to utilize toll credits generated by past toll collections on the Crescent City Connection Bridge and not obligated on or before April 3, 2015, to meet the nonfederal share requirement on transportation infrastructure projects on the Crescent City Connection Bridge itself or the Westbank Expressway or its approaches, or any combination of those three, and for no other purpose.
3. Remove a provision that specified that toll credits be considered a supplemental funding source only to be used in the area where the toll credit is generated and instead clarifies that toll credits be considered a supplemental funding source and not as a replacement for any other form of state transportation funding.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Add the Fourth Street Extension to the transportation infrastructure projects for which the Dept. of Transportation and Development shall utilize toll credits generated by past toll collections on the Crescent City Connection Bridge and not obligated on or before April 3, 2015.