DIGEST

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HB 316 Original

2020 Regular Session

Thomas

Abstract: Creates the crime of infliction of serious injury or death on a vulnerable road user and provides for penalties.

<u>Proposed law</u> creates the crime of infliction of serious injury or death on a vulnerable road user and defines it as the inflicting of serious bodily injury upon the person of a vulnerable road user or the killing of a vulnerable road user when caused directly or indirectly by an offender operating a motor vehicle in violation of any applicable traffic law and the violation of such traffic law was the cause of such injury or death.

Proposed law provides that "vulnerable road user" includes the following:

- (1) A pedestrian, including but not limited to a person engaged in work upon a public highway or other roadway, a person engaged in utility or facility work along a public highway or other roadway, or a person engaged in emergency services within the right-of-way of a public highway or other roadway.
- (2) A person riding or leading an animal upon a public highway or other roadway.
- (3) A person lawfully operating or riding any of the following on a public right-of-way, crosswalk, or shoulder of a public highway or other roadway:
 - (a) A bicycle, tricycle, or other human-powered vehicle designed to transport by pedaling.
 - (b) A farm tractor or similar vehicle designed primarily for farm use.
 - (c) A skateboard, roller skates, or inline skates.
 - (d) A motorcycle, moped, or scooter.
 - (e) An animal-drawn wheeled vehicle, farm equipment, or sled.
 - (f) An electric personal assistive mobility device.
 - (g) A wheelchair, rolling walker, or any other type of walker.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires a person issued a traffic citation to attend a hearing on the citation before a court having jurisdiction over the alleged offense.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that any person who commits the <u>proposed law</u> crime may have his driving privileges suspended for a period of not more than one year and, in addition, may be fined not more than two thousand dollars, imprisoned for not more than six months, ordered to complete a court-approved motor vehicle accident program, or ordered to perform not more than two hundred hours of court-approved community service activities.

(Adds R.S. 14:39.3)