

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 303

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

TRANSPORTATION: Urges and requests the Department of Transportation and Development assume and reassign duties and responsibilities for the construction of the I-49 Inner-City Connector project

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development assume  
3 responsibility the Interstate 49 (I-49) Inner City Connector project and reassign the  
4 duties and responsibilities for the construction of the project.

5 WHEREAS, the I-49 Inner City Connector or (I-49 ICC) project is proposed to  
6 complete the I-49 to connect Interstate 20, through the city of Shreveport, Louisiana, to join  
7 I-49 South with the new I-49 North at Interstate 220; and

8 WHEREAS, the I-49 ICC project has followed the Department of Transportation and  
9 Development's seven-stage project delivery process; and

10 WHEREAS, "Stage 0" of the I-49 ICC project feasibility study was completed in  
11 May of 2010; and

12 WHEREAS, "Stage 1" of the project began in September of 2011 and is still in this  
13 stage; and

14 WHEREAS, the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments, in collaboration with  
15 the Department of Transportation and Development, is responsible for the I-49 ICC project;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, according to the executive director of the Northwest Louisiana Council  
18 of Governments, the project is "uncertain" in many ways; and

1           WHEREAS, one of the causes for the delay in the project is attributed to the increase  
2 in cost to fund the project in the amount of approximately three hundred to four hundred  
3 million dollars more than the estimated range; and

4           WHEREAS, another cited cause for the delay is the decrease in funding allocated to  
5 the project; and

6           WHEREAS, according to the Shreveport-Bossier City Advocate, the Northwest  
7 Louisiana Council of Governments is looking to move towards a record of decision, which  
8 will submit four alternate build routes; and

9           WHEREAS, the preferred new build alternative is called Build Alternative 3A, which  
10 was proposed in a community input meeting in October of 2023; and

11           WHEREAS, due to the issues with funding and uncertainty, the Northwest Louisiana  
12 Council of Governments, Build Alternative 3A has had little progress; and

13           WHEREAS, due to the complexity of the issues with the project, the executive  
14 director of the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments anticipates a lawsuit; and

15           WHEREAS, on April 24, 2025, a fatal car accident occurred on I-220 near the I-49  
16 interchange; and

17           WHEREAS, according the Shreveport Police Department, Caddo Parish is ranked  
18 second for the most fatal car accidents in the state of Louisiana; and

19           WHEREAS, due to the I-49 ICC project construction, traffic congestion and car  
20 accidents have become a major issue in the area; and

21           WHEREAS, as a result of these issues, the Department of Transportation and  
22 Development implemented a supplemental surface abrasion treatment as a safety measure  
23 to the pavement on I-220 near the I-49 interchange to increase friction levels; and

24           WHEREAS, the Northwest Louisiana Council of Governments has needed assistance  
25 in the I-49 ICC project from the Department of Transportation and Development.

26           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
27 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that the Department of Transportation  
28 and Development assume responsibility of the I-49 Inner-City Connector project and  
29 reassign all duties and responsibilities for future construction of the project.

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

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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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HR 303 Original

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Walters

Urges and requests that the Dept. of Transportation and Development assume responsibility of the I-49 Inner-City Connector project and reassign duties and responsibilities for future construction of the project.