

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 315

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to study the benefits of implementing the D.R.I.V.E. Initiative (DOTD's Responsibility for Interstate 12 Vitality and Efficiency), including major improvements to the shoulders and capacity of Interstate 12 (I-12) and Interstate 55 (I-55) Interchange, and to develop a comprehensive, shovel-ready plan that addresses safety, congestion, and regional connectivity.

WHEREAS, I-12 serves as a critical corridor for both daily commuters and commercial traffic throughout southeastern Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, as our region continues to grow, so does the pressure on I-12 with traffic volumes increasing steadily and leading to frequent slowdowns, dangerous bottlenecks, and limited access for first responders during emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the limited shoulders and constrained capacity of I-12 present persistent safety risks, increase emergency response times, and hinder the efficiency of traffic flow during peak hours and major incidents; and

WHEREAS, wider shoulders would help clear wrecks faster, reduce secondary crashes, provide safer space for emergency stops, and give our state flexibility to meet future traffic demands; and

WHEREAS, strategic improvements to I-12, including its shoulders and interchanges, are essential to accommodate current and future transportation demands, enhance motorist safety, and foster continued economic growth; and

WHEREAS, the interchange between I-12 and I-55 is a critical junction in Louisiana's highway network and would benefit from targeted upgrades to improve traffic movement and overall system reliability; and

WHEREAS, the D.R.I.V.E. Initiative seeks to address these longstanding transportation challenges through proactive planning and investment in high-impact infrastructure improvements; and

WHEREAS, as part of the D.R.I.V.E. Initiative, a comprehensive approach to improving I-12 should include efforts to study the efficacy and possible removal of ramp metering devices to eliminate unnecessary lane restrictions and evaluate the impact of on-ramp surveillance cameras, which may impede traffic flow and diminish public confidence in transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, implementing the D.R.I.V.E. Initiative will establish the DOTD's responsibility for I-12's vitality and efficiency through a transformative investment in infrastructure, including the I-12 and I-55 Interchange which is a key junction critical to regional transportation and commerce.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to study the benefits of implementing the D.R.I.V.E. Initiative (DOTD's Responsibility for Interstate 12 Vitality and Efficiency) including major improvements to the shoulders, to develop a comprehensive and shovel-ready plan that addresses long-standing safety concerns, reduces congestion, and supports regional growth, including improvements to the I-12 and I-55 Interchange.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation and Development shall submit a written report detailing its findings to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works by August 1, 2026.

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

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES