2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 347

BY REPRESENTATIVES PHELPS, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BOYD, FISHER, JACKSON, JORDAN, LARVADAIN, MCMAKIN, MENA, MOORE, NEWELL, SCHAMERHORN, TAYLOR, WALTERS, WILDER, AND YOUNG

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to obtain formal input and approval from the legislative delegation representing a parish that is on the priority list for funding or is subject to receive transportation funding before allocating or reallocating funds for transportation and infrastructure projects in that area.

WHEREAS, the DOTD serves as the principal state agency for the planning, funding, and execution of critical transportation infrastructure projects in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the DOTD regularly receives and distributes significant state and federal transportation funding for highways, bridges, airports, transit systems, and other infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the DOTD State Management Plan provides that "The project evaluation is used to determine necessary changes to the project prior to funding as well as the maximum level of funding which the project will be eligible to receive under the funding allocation process" demonstrating the department's discretion in determining project selection and funding levels; and

WHEREAS, members of the legislature, as elected representatives of their districts, possess essential local knowledge and serve as advocates for their constituents' infrastructure needs, particularly with regard to safety, economic development, and regional growth; and

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WHEREAS, requiring consultation with and approval from a legislative delegation prior to the DOTD's final allocation or reallocation of funds for transportation projects within their jurisdiction enhances accountability, increases transparency, and ensures that

appropriations reflect the priorities and concerns of the communities most affected; and

WHEREAS, formal legislative delegation input would provide a necessary check on the exercise of administrative discretion and support more equitable and need-based project

development throughout Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the DOTD to formally consult with and obtain the input and approval of the legislative delegation representing any parish or region that is on the priority list for funding or is subject to receive transportation funding prior to the allocation, reallocation, or redirection of funds for any transportation or infrastructure project within that area.

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