

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

SR 178

2025 Regular Session

Barrow

Directed Louisiana DOTD to conduct a comprehensive review and a report of other states and national best practices in comparison to the department's current process to include:

- (1) Access road hazard management practices, including maintenance protocols, reporting systems, and average response times for damage claims.
- (2) Compile and report data on the number of citizen claims filed for road hazard-related damages, the number of claims approved or denied, the total and average payout amounts, and the reasons for denials.
- (3) Assess the financial and quality-of-life burdens caused by road hazards on Louisiana residents, particularly lower-income and rural communities.
- (4) Review relevant statutes and policies regarding liability, insurance coverage, and sovereign immunity related to road hazard damages.
- (5) Examine models and programs from other states that offer improved claim processes, alternative funding mechanisms, or streamlined hazard reporting systems.

Provided that the DOTD shall develop policy recommendations for improving road hazard mitigation and compensation procedures, to be submitted in a report to the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works and to the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library no later than February 1, 2026.