

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 259

BY REPRESENTATIVE DEWITT

UTILITIES: Provides relative to the repair of damaged infrastructure from certain excavators or demolishers

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:1749.28, relative to the repair of damaged infrastructure from certain  
3 excavators or demolishers; to provide for definitions; to provide for notice; to  
4 provide for the repair of damage; to provide for the reimbursement of funds; and to  
5 provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 40:1749.28 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1749.28. BEAD excavations; requirements for repair

9 A. For the purpose of this Section, "BEAD Program" means the Broadband  
10 Equity, Access, and Deployment Program administered by the National  
11 Telecommunications and Information administration of the United States  
12 Department of Commerce.

13 B. Notwithstanding the notice requirements outlined in R.S. 40:1749.13, an  
14 excavator or demolisher who is excavating or demolishing utilizing funding provided  
15 by the BEAD Program shall be required to give notice at least one calendar week in  
16 advance of the commencement of any excavation or demolition activity.

17 C. An excavator or demolisher who is excavating or demolishing utilizing  
18 funding provided by the BEAD Program that damages an underground utility or  
19 facility shall be responsible for all of the following:



Proposed law provides for the requirements for certain excavators or demolishers to receive final reimbursement of funds from the office of broadband development and connectivity.

Proposed law provides for applicability.

(Adds R.S. 40:1749.28)