
DIGEST

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HB 720 Original

2026 Regular Session

Riser

Abstract: Establishes that roadways obtained by a parish or municipality through tacit dedication and any public works within the right-of-way of tacitly dedicated roadways remain public and subject to public use until the parish or municipality formally revokes the dedication.

Present law provides that when a parish or city maintains a private roadway for a certain number of years, the road becomes public.

Present law further establishes the conditions under which this tacit dedication may be proven or presumed and provides procedures for a parish or municipality to dispose of public roads.

Proposed law retains present law and clarifies that a road that has been tacitly dedicated to the public under present law remains public and subject to public use unless the parish or municipality formally revokes the dedication.

Proposed law further provides that any public works or improvements made by the parish or municipality in the right-of-way of the dedicated public roadway are also public, subject to public use, and remain public unless the dedication is revoked as required by proposed law.

Proposed law clarifies that a public roadway that has been tacitly dedicated to the public cannot be alienated by private sale.

Provides for prospective and retroactive application.

(Amends R.S. 48:491(B)(1)(c) and (2); Adds R.S. 48:491(B)(3))