

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1000

BY REPRESENTATIVE BRAUD

TRANSPORTATION DEPT: Modifies certain operations within the Department of Transportation and Development and the Highway Priority Program

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 48:229.1(F) and (H), 231(A)(5), and 251(B), relative to reform
3 operations within the Department of Transportation and Development and the
4 Highway Priority Program; to clarify that the annual submissions of the highway
5 priority program apply to the completed prior year's program; to specify that projects
6 not included in the final construction program for the upcoming fiscal year must be
7 provided to the House and Senate transportation committees by October 1st of the
8 following year; to provide for an increase in the contract limit amount for highways
9 or other public facilities; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. R.S. 48:229.1(F) and (H), 231(A)(5), and 251(B) are hereby amended and
12 reenacted to read as follows:

13 §229.1. Statewide prioritization process for the Highway Priority Program

14 * * *

15 F. The department shall include in its annual submission of the highway
16 priority program a detailed list of any changes to the completed previous year's
17 program, along with an explanation of the reasons such changes were made. It shall
18 be the goal of the department to ensure that at least ninety percent of its projects in
19 the program progress as provided for in the completed previous year's program

1 submission. The legislative auditor shall monitor the program and make an annual
2 determination of the percentage of accuracy.

3 * * *

4 H. The department shall provide a report on the status of projects included
5 in the current Highway Priority Program to the House and Senate committees on
6 transportation, highways and public works annually.

7 * * *

8 §231. Final construction program for current fiscal year; public hearings; Joint
9 Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works; reports; review
10 by legislature; restrictions on legislature

11 A.

12 * * *

13 (5) A report based on the testimony received at the hearings shall be sent to
14 the department and the House and Senate committees on transportation, highways
15 and public works. The department shall then create the final construction program
16 for the coming fiscal year for submission to the legislature. Any project discussed
17 at the hearing that is not included in the final construction program for the upcoming
18 fiscal year shall be given numerical identification and the department shall provide
19 the aforementioned committees with a list of the projects along with written
20 justification for the exclusion of each individual project on or before the first of
21 October of the following fiscal year.

22 * * *

23 §251. Contracts for projects

24 * * *

25 B. Every contract exceeding the contract limit, as defined in this Subsection,
26 for construction, maintenance, or improvement of a department facility under the
27 provisions of this Part shall be made in the name of the department and shall be
28 signed by the secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development or his
29 duly appointed designee and by the contracting party. The contract limit for this Part

(Amends R.S. 48:229.1(F) and (H), 231(A)(5), and 251(B))