SLS 26RS-2690 **ORIGINAL**

2026 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 58

BY SENATOR CARTER

ROADS/HIGHWAYS. Urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to conduct a review of public-private partnership contracting practices.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to conduct a review of its public-private partnership contracting practices, comparing and contrasting the Belle Chasse Toll Bridge project in relation to active or future public-private partnership projects.

WHEREAS, tolling on the Belle Chasse Bridge began in 2025, and toll-related complaints were raised publicly by residents, motorists, businesses, and local officials; and

WHEREAS, public reporting concerning the Belle Chasse Bridge toll system included complaints regarding toll amounts, fees, and alleged unauthorized charges; and

WHEREAS, testimony during numerous legislative hearings reflected concerns that the toll structure and related charges were detrimental to the residents and businesses in Plaquemines Parish; and

WHEREAS, in October 2025, Governor Jeff Landry announced the suspension of toll collections on the Belle Chasse Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the legislature has authority to consider matters relating to the fiscal impact, contractual obligations, and public accountability associated with transportation infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, the Belle Chasse Bridge public-private partnership was the first P3

project between the state and private entities and established the possibility of long-term contractual and financial obligations that may be detrimental to Louisiana residents; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Auditor conducted a performance audit of the Belle Chasse Bridge and Tunnel Replacement Project in 2023 in which the audit recommended DOTD develop formal policies and procedures for evaluating future P3 transportation projects and DOTD agreed with the audit recommendations and stated it would develop additional procedures and guidance for future P3 projects.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to conduct a review of it's public-private partnership contracting practices, comparing and contrasting the Belle Chasse Toll Bridge project in relation to upcoming P3 projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department study and report differences, improvements and "lessons learned" between the two P3 projects including procurement, contract terms, financial assumptions (including tolling), project oversight, delays or cost increases, best practices and community impact, and shall report their findings to the Senate and House committees on transportation, highways and public works no later than February 1, 2027.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

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Requests the Department of Transportation and Development to conduct a review of it's public-private partnership contracting practices, comparing and contrasting the Belle Chasse Toll Bridge project in relation to active or future public private partnership projects.