DIGEST

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Quezaire HB No. 12

Abstract: Authorizes the Department of Transportation and Development (DOTD) to utilize the design-build method to construct transportation infrastructure projects in hurricane-impacted areas of this state.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the secretary of DOTD, with approval of the House and Senate transportation committees, to implement a pilot program to evaluate the cost-effectiveness of combining the design and construction phases of a transportation facility, including but not limited to highways, interchanges, or bridges into a single contract.

<u>Proposed law</u> deletes the requirement for approval of the House and Senate transportation committees and removes pilot program limitation of the design-build program.

<u>Present law</u> limits the department to utilizing the design-build method to construct the new Mississippi River Bridge at St. Francisville (connection to US 61), including approach structures and connecting roadways, and one additional project selected by the secretary; however, the cost of the additional project shall not exceed \$5 million.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> but additionally authorizes the department to utilize the design-build method for any transportation infrastructure project in an area impacted by a hurricane, including areas where infrastructure is adversely impacted by increased population and traffic due to a hurricane.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 48:250.2(A) and (C))