## DIGEST

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Beard HB No. 74

**Abstract:** Authorizes the Department of Transportation and Development to utilize the design-build method to construct transportation infrastructure projects in areas impacted by a hurricane.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the secretary of the Dept. of Transportation and Development, 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> retains <u>present law</u> but removes the pilot program limitation of the design-build program.

<u>Present law</u> authorizes the department to utilize the design-build method to construct the new Mississippi River Bridge at St. Francisville (connection to US 61) 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 of the state impacted by a hurricane, including those areas where infrastructure is adversely impacted by increased population and traffic due to a hurricane.

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