HLS 21RS-3092 ORIGINAL

2021 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 117

BY REPRESENTATIVE PIERRE

TRANSPORTATION: Commends the Department of Transportation and Development on its centennial celebration

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To recognize and commend the Department of Transportation and Development on its
3	centennial celebration of delivering a safe and innovative multimodal transportation
4	and infrastructure system.
5	WHEREAS, it is with great pleasure that the members of the Louisiana Legislature
6	have learned of the Department of Transportation and Development's one hundredth
7	anniversary; and
8	WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development has been and
9	remains committed to moving projects forward that enhance economic development while
10	maintaining safety and improving the efficiency of Louisiana's system; and
11	WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development's commitment is
12	evident by the many years of planning, designing, building, and sustaining infrastructure
13	needs of Louisiana citizens with minimal use of resources; and
14	WHEREAS, the history of the Department of Transportation and Development has
15	paved the way for a safe and reliable multimodal transportation and infrastructure system
16	from 1921 to the present with the Louisiana Legislature board approval in 1898; and
17	WHEREAS, in 1898, the Board of State Engineers was established to create a
18	uniform public road system; and
19	WHEREAS, in 1910, the state highway department was established; and
20	WHEREAS, in 1919, the budget of the state highway department was one hundred
21	and forty thousand dollars; and

1	WHEREAS, in 1921, the legislature created the Louisiana Highway Commission as
2	an independent state agency and approved ten maintenance districts; and
3	WHEREAS, in 1922, the legislature passed a one-cent gas tax; and
4	WHEREAS, in 1926, the legislature deemed a two-cent gas tax inadequate and
5	recommended a four-cent gas tax; and
6	WHEREAS, in 1930, the legislature approved bond insurance for highway and
7	bridge construction; and
8	WHEREAS, in 1940, the Louisiana Department of Highways, formerly the Louisiana
9	Highway Commission, was established under the leadership of the Board of Highways and
10	a Director; and
11	WHEREAS, in 1948, the legislature increased the gas tax to nine-cent; and
12	WHEREAS, in 1953, the legislature diverted three-eighths of a cent of the state sales
13	tax to secondary, gravel and shell, road improvements; and
14	WHEREAS, in 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed into law the Federal
15	Aid Highway Act of 1956 enacting the beginning of the Interstate Highway System; and
16	WHEREAS, in 1968, the legislature decreased the gas tax to eight-cent; and
17	WHEREAS, in 1976, the Department of Highways and Public Works was abolished
18	and the legislature established the Louisiana Department of Transportation and
19	Development; and
20	WHEREAS, in 1984, the legislature increased the gas tax to sixteen-cent; and
21	WHEREAS, in 1989, the legislature increased the gas tax to twenty-cent; and
22	WHEREAS, in 1998, the Department of Transportation and Development
23	reorganized to its current configuration of five offices under the office of the secretary; and
24	WHEREAS, in 2000, the first traffic cameras were installed on Interstate 12 in Baton
25	Rouge; and
26	WHEREAS, in 2006, the John Audubon Bridge construction was the first state
27	design-build project; and
28	WHEREAS, in 2021, the Department of Transportation and Development celebrates
29	one hundred years of delivering infrastructure; and

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1 WHEREAS, in 2021, the cost to repair existing highways to adequate standards is 2 fourteen billion eight million dollars; and 3 WHEREAS, in 2021, the current budget of the department is two billion and the gas 4 tax remains at twenty-cent. 5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 6 recognize and commend the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development on its centennial celebration and does express sincere appreciation for the many years of 7 8 planning, designing, building, and sustaining infrastructure needs of Louisiana citizens. 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the

## **DIGEST**

secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

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