The original instrument was prepared by Michelle D. Ridge. The following digest, which does not constitute a part of the legislative instrument, was prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

DIGEST 2022 Regular Session

SB 435 Re-Reengrossed

Cortez

<u>Present law</u> provides relative to the La. Highway Regulatory Act, which includes provisions relating to speed limits and driving on the right side of the road, overtaking, and passing.

<u>Present law</u> provides for penalties for a violation of the La. Highway Regulatory Act with the first offense being a fine of not more than \$175 or imprisonment of not more than 30 days, or both, unless otherwise provided by law. A subsequent violation will result in a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides that if a person operating a motor vehicle violates the provisions of <u>present law</u> while on the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge, the fine shall be two times the standard fine imposed.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge means the Atchafalaya Elevated Expressway designated by Act 793 of 1989 as the Louisiana Airborne Memorial Bridge.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides legislative intent designating the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge as a highway safety corridor and directs DOTD to take all steps necessary to implement <u>proposed law</u> including but not limited to the implementation of camera safety devices and installation of additional signage.

<u>Proposed law</u> authorizes DOTD to install camera safety devices on the bridge, provides certain parameters, and provides for rulemaking.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for signage on the bridge to include speed limit signs, "Trucks Right Lane Only" signs, and "Safety Corridor, Fines Doubled for Speeding and Other Violations" signs.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for the number and placement of the signs.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the signs are in compliance with the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that no person shall be subject to a citation issued pursuant to <u>proposed law</u> if a citation for the same offense was also issued by a police officer.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for the creation of the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge Safety Fund and for the management of money in the fund. Further provides for monies from the fund to be used to cover expenditures of the department in setting up required signage and cameras. Changes pro rata distribution from the fund to the parishes to proportional distribution based on the civil fines

attributable to each parish.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires that, subject to legislative appropriation, monies in the fund be used first to fund the department's expenditures necessary to implement <u>proposed law</u> and that thereafter, at the conclusion of each fiscal year, any unexpended monies in the fund shall be divided equally between the parishes of Iberville and St. Martin to be remitted to entities or organizations within each parish in the same proportions as fines collected by the parishes when traffic violations are issued by a law enforcement officer.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Adds R.S. 32:57(J) and 268)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works to the original bill

- 1. Reduces the fine from five times the standard amount to two times.
- 2. Clarifies that the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge means the Atchafalaya Elevated Expressway designated by Act 793 of 1989 as the Louisiana Airborne Memorial Bridge.
- 3. Provides legislative intent.
- 4. Requires DOTD to implement safety measures including cameras and increased signage.
- 5. Provides that no person shall be subject to a citation issued from a camera if they were also issued a citation for the same offense by a police officer.
- 6. Creates the Atchafalaya Basin Bridge Safety Fund.

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the engrossed bill

- 1. Provides for monies from the fund to be used to cover expenditures of the department in setting up required signage and cameras.
- 2. Changes pro rata distribution from the fund to the parishes to proportional distribution based on the civil fines attributable to each parish.

Senate Floor Amendments to reengrossed bill

Adds provisions for use and distribution of monies in the Fund.

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