

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 68

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

TRANSPORTATION DEPT: Urges and requests the Department of Transportation and Development to install accessible pedestrian signals at certain intersections

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to install accessible
3 pedestrian signals at certain intersections.

4 WHEREAS, accessible pedestrian signals provide audible and tactile information to
5 pedestrians regarding WALK and DON'T WALK intervals at signalized intersections; and

6 WHEREAS, people who are visually impaired, blind, and deaf-blind rely on audible
7 and tactile information to safely cross intersections; and

8 WHEREAS, state and local governments are required to provide equal access to
9 public goods and services to people with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities
10 Act; and

11 WHEREAS, 52,822 adults age forty and older in Louisiana are blind or have low
12 vision; and

13 WHEREAS, diabetic retinopathy, cataracts, and glaucoma affect another 484,398
14 adults age forty and older in Louisiana, a figure that represents 23.8% of Louisiana's
15 population over the age of forty; and

16 WHEREAS, the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices, issued by the Federal
17 Highway Administration of the United States Department of Transportation, defines an
18 "accessible pedestrian signal" as a device designated to assist a pedestrian who has visual
19 or physical disabilities in activating the pedestrian phase; and

1 WHEREAS, accessible pedestrian devices communicate information about the
2 WALK and DON'T WALK intervals at signalized intersections, in nonvisual formats, to
3 pedestrians who are blind or have low vision; and

4 WHEREAS, a design that is beneficial for people with visual impairments is
5 beneficial for all pedestrians including seniors and tourists; and

6 WHEREAS, accessible pedestrian devices have the following benefits: (1) make it
7 easier for visually impaired pedestrians to safely cross the street; (2) reduce crossings during
8 the DON'T WALK phase; (3) allow more crossings in each signal interval; and (4) improve
9 crossing speeds for sighted pedestrians.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
11 urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to adopt
12 proactive policies to implement accessible pedestrian signals when new traffic signals are
13 installed or existing traffic signals are altered at intersections with pedestrian signals that are
14 operated by the state of Louisiana.

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

DIGEST

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)]

HCR 68 Engrossed

2019 Regular Session

Leger

Urges and requests the Dept. of Transportation and Development to install accessible pedestrian signals at intersections with pedestrian signals that are operated by the state of La.