SLS 12RS-930 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATOR ADLEY

TRANSPORTATION/DEV DEPT. Requests DOTD to hold public meetings relative to proposed closure of a public railroad grade crossing on non-state maintained parish and municipal roadways.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1 2 To urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to hold public meetings prior to proposed closure of a public railroad grade crossing on non-state 3 4 maintained parish and municipal roadways. 5 WHEREAS, R. S. 48:390.1 authorizes the Department of Transportation and Development to evaluate the need to close any public railroad grade crossing on a non-state 6 7 maintained highway within the territorial jurisdiction of any local governing authority in 8 compliance with the Federal Railroad Crossing Safety Program; and 9 WHEREAS, if the department's evaluation suggests closure of such public railroad 10 grade crossing is necessary for safety and in the best interest of the public, the department 11 must encourage public participation, by doing the following: 12 (1) Providing written notice to the local governing authority with jurisdiction over 13 the non-state maintained highway, the railroad company whose railroad tracks are crossed at grade by such highways, and any other party deemed by the department to be interested 14 in the necessity to close such crossing; 15 16 (2) Establishing in such notice a set time period of not less than thirty days for such local governing authority, railroad, or other interested party to respond to the department; 17 18 and

1	(3) Attempting to address concerns of such local governing authority, the railroad,
2	or other interested party timely communicated to the department in writing or received at
3	any public hearing held by the local governing authority relative to the closure; and
4	WHEREAS, R.S. 48:390 requires the Department of Transportation and
5	Development to complete a study of all public railroad crossings to establish priorities for
6	improvement, relocation, or closure and to develop a prioritized plan to implement railroad
7	grade crossing improvements, relocations, or closures pursuant to the Federal Railroad
8	Crossing Safety Program; and
9	WHEREAS, the department holds public meetings on proposed closures of public
10	railroad grade crossings on state maintained highways pursuant to the department-adopted
11	procedures entitled "Public Meeting Procedures for Highway/Rail Grade Crossing
12	Consolidation and Closure on State Maintained Highways" adopted in September 2011; and
13	WHEREAS, such public meeting procedures provide for department notification and
14	explanation of proposed closures on state maintained highways; and
15	WHEREAS, at such public meetings the department accepts written comments and
16	requests for additional information; and
17	WHEREAS, the department does not hold such public meetings prior to proposed
18	closure of a public railroad grade crossing on non-state maintained parish and municipal
19	roadways.
20	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
21	urge and request the Department of Transportation and Development to hold public meetings
22	prior to a proposed closure of a public railroad grade crossing on non-state maintained parish
23	and municipal roadways.
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
25	secretary of the Department of Transportation and Development.
	The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Sharon F. Lyles.

DIGEST

Adley SCR No.

Requests DOTD hold a public meeting prior to proposed closure of a public railroad grade crossing on non-state maintained parish and municipal roadways.