

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 41

BY SENATORS MIGUEZ, BOUDREAUX, COUSSAN AND HENSGENS AND REPRESENTATIVES BEAULLIEU, BRYANT, CARLSON, CHASSION, EMERSON, HEBERT, HENRY, JACOB LANDRY AND MYERS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to expedite the process to complete the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector.

WHEREAS, the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector is a segment of highway, in excess of five miles, between Interstate 10 and the Lafayette Regional Airport known as the I-49 Lafayette connector; and

WHEREAS, it is a critical transportation link that needs to be upgraded to interstate standards for areas of Lafayette, Acadiana, and for the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector is a hurricane evacuation route for New Orleans and all of south Louisiana, as well as a link between High Priority Corridors 1 and 37; and

WHEREAS, the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector facilitates commerce between the Port of New Orleans and the oil production region of Louisiana, Canada, and throughout the central United States; and

WHEREAS, according to a study by Regional Economic Impact Models, the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector has the potential to create six thousand jobs statewide and is estimated to increase the state's gross domestic product by more than two billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, the lack of interstate standard facilities at one of the primary interstate intersections in Louisiana hampers local, regional, and statewide economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Development has spent more than twenty-two million dollars in the planning and development of the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector since 2015; and

WHEREAS, because of the extreme delays with the development of the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector and the costs estimated to be nearly two billion dollars, time is of the essence and leverage of all potential sources of funds are necessary.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby desire to show support of the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector and urges and requests the Department of Transportation and Development to expedite the final development stages of and completion of the Interstate 49 Lafayette connector.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES