

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 191

BY REPRESENTATIVE LAMBERT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to study the implementation of flashing yellow arrows at major intersections.

WHEREAS, a large number of accidents and deaths are imputed yearly to drivers failing to yield to oncoming traffic when making a left turn at intersections; and

WHEREAS, the cause of such accidents and deaths is due to many drivers who inadvertently believe they have the right-of-way when the traffic signal at intersections switches to a solid green light; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration conducted a study that found a flashing yellow left-turn arrow signal helped to prevent crashes; and

WHEREAS, the study also found that drivers made fewer mistakes with the flashing yellow left-turn arrow signals than with traditional left-turn arrow signals, traffic moved easily through an intersection, the flashing yellow left-turn arrow signal was easy to implement without revising signal hardware, and provided additional traffic management flexibility; and

WHEREAS, the National Cooperative Highway Research Program found the flashing yellow left-turn arrow signal to be the best overall alternative to the circular green signal as the permissive signal display for a left-turn movement and left-turn drivers had a high level of understanding and correct response to the flashing yellow turn-signal arrow; and

WHEREAS, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, and Wisconsin have successfully installed flashing yellow left-turn arrow signals and report a decrease in accidents; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the state of Louisiana to provide for the safety of its citizens to the best of its ability; and

WHEREAS, installing flashing yellow left-turn arrow signals at major intersections are needed to protect the safety and welfare of pedestrians and drivers alike and to diminish the current public safety hazard in the state; and

WHEREAS, it is prudent that the Department of Transportation and Development conduct a traffic study to determine whether there is a need for the installation of flashing yellow left-turn arrow signals at major intersections.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development to study the implementation of flashing yellow left-turn arrow signals at major intersections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall prepare and submit a final report that contains the results of the study requested by this resolution and submit such final report to the House Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works, and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works no later than February 1, 2016.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE