

SENATE BILL 257:

Appropriations Act of 2017, Sec. 34.6A: Road Improvements Adjacent to Schools

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee: Date: August 11, 2017
Introduced by: Prepared by: Giles Perry
Analysis of: Sec. 34.6A of S.L. 2017-57
Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Section 34.6A of S.L. 2017-57:

- Amends the Department of Transportation's (DOT) power to oversee improvements to public roads adjacent to any K-12 school.
- ➤ Amends the power of cities to require road improvements related to K-12 schools.
- > Requires DOT to develop a report on road improvements required for K-12 schools in specified past and future years.

The provisions of this section applicable to DOT and city-required road improvements became effective October 1, 2017. The remainder of this section became effective July 1, 2017.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 34.6A of S.L. 2017-57:

- Amends the Department of Transportation's (DOT) power to oversee improvements to public roads adjacent to any K-12 school, to provide that: DOT can only require highway improvements that are required for safe ingress and egress to the State highway system and that are physically connected to a driveway on the school site; the total cost of any improvements to the State highway system provided by a school must be reimbursed by DOT; DOT has the power to grant final approval of the project design; schools may engage their own independent traffic engineers for design; and the term "schools" includes public charter schools.
- Amends the power of cities to require road improvements related to K-12 schools to provide that: A city may only require street improvements that are required for safe ingress and egress to the municipal street system, and that are physically connected to a driveway on the school site; the cost of any improvements to the municipal street system shall be reimbursed by DOT; any agreement between a school and a city to make improvements to the municipal street system shall not include a requirement for acquisition of right-of-way by the school, unless the school is owned by an entity that has eminent domain power; any right-of-way costs incurred by a school for a required improvement pursuant to this section shall be reimbursed by DOT; and the term "school" means K-12 schools, including public charter schools.
- ➤ Requires DOT, in collaboration with the Department of Public Instruction, to develop a report on road improvements required for K-12 schools in specified past and future years. DOT must submit the report to the Joint Legislative Transportation Oversight Committee and the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by February 1, 2018.

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Senate Bill 257

Page 2

Authorizes DOT to adopt temporary rules to implement the provisions of this section.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The provisions of this section applicable to DOT and city-required road improvements become effective October 1, 2017. The remainder of this section became effective July 1, 2017.