

# *HIGHWAY INFOLINE*



## *Legislative Update*

We are just a few short weeks away from the 2025 Regular Legislative Session which convenes on April 14, 2025. Because this is an odd-numbered year, this session is a “fiscal session” which limits lawmakers to five non-fiscal bills. Despite the limited nature of this session, highway safety bills are still in play.

As ever, we will be watching drug-related bills, including intoxicating hemp bills ([HB 12](#), [HB 36](#), and [HB 187](#)). Last year’s [HB 952](#) placed new guardrails on Louisiana’s hemp industry that went into effect on January 1st of this year, including capping serving sizes. This year may see continued fights over hemp, as a growing number of states look to reign in intoxicating hemp products.

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## *Legislative Update (Continued)*

Georgia has pending legislation to limit the amount of THC in hemp beverages. A lawmaker in Florida is attempting for the third year in a row to tighten rules around hemp after Governor Ron DeSantis vetoed her 2024 legislation. Texas Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick wants to ban consumable hemp entirely and said he would push for a special session if lawmakers fail to do so. An Alabama representative recently filed a bill that would regulate hemp similarly to alcohol after a separate bill banning hemp failed to move forward this session. This is just a small sampling of what's happening as states grapple with intoxicating hemp.

Other pertinent highway safety bills pending as of this writing include a provision for an “electronic alcohol monitoring device” as an alternative to an ignition interlock device (HB 182) and a new two-year minimum sentence for hit-and-run driving (HB 35). As the session progresses, we will continue to monitor and provide updates on any highway safety bills.

### **Highway Safety Bills:**

- HB 12 – Provides relative to the sale of consumable hemp products
- HB 15 – Adds certain substances to the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Law
- HB 35 – Provides for a minimum mandatory sentence for certain hit and run driving offenses
- HB 36 – Provides relative to consumable hemp
- HB 156 – Provides relative to the safe handling of fentanyl following an arrest
- HB 176 – Provides relative to regulation of certain hallucinogenic chemicals
- HB 182 – Provides relative to penalties for the crime of operating a vehicle while impaired
- HB 187 – Increases the rate of excise tax on consumable hemp products
- SB 11 – Provide for penalties for certain traffic offenses

## *RESOURCES*

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC  
SAFETY ADMINISTRATION  
(<http://www.nhtsa.gov>)

NATIONAL TRAFFIC LAW  
CENTER  
([www.ndaa.org](http://www.ndaa.org) and access  
Traffic Law under the “Our  
Programs” drop down box at  
the top)

LOUISIANA HIGHWAY  
SAFETY COMMISSION  
(<http://www.lahighwaysafety.org>)

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[SaferCar.gov](https://www.safercar.gov)

# Save the Date!



**UPCOMING  
TRAININGS & EVENTS**



**LDAA**

June 23-  
27, 2025

## **LDAA 47th Annual Conference**

**Sandestin Resort  
9300 Emerald Coast Parkway W  
Miramar Beach, FL 32550**

Please join us for Traffic Safety Sessions  
including an SFST and Wet Lab  
demonstration, CLDs, and more!

**[Click here to register!](#)**

*Hello from your  
TSRP!*

I am excited to serve as Louisiana's TSRP. If you have questions, corrections, or any suggestions for articles, please contact LDAA Headquarters, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808-9042, phone (225) 343-0171, fax (225) 387-0237, or via e-mail at [jacqueline.sanchez@LDAA.ORG](mailto:jacqueline.sanchez@LDAA.ORG).  
Jacqueline Sanchez, Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor

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