

**FINAL
CAMERON FERRY
PUBLIC PURPOSE**

The following resolution was offered by ABRAHAM and seconded by LEDET :

LOUISIANA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

A resolution finding that the privatization of operations and maintenance of the Cameron Ferry Service (H.972598.1) will serve a public purpose in accordance with La. R.S. 48:2084(D)(1).

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Transportation Authority (the "*Authority*"), a public corporation placed within the Department of Transportation and Development (the "*DOTD*" or "*Department*") of the State of Louisiana (the "*State*") and created pursuant to Chapter 30 of Title 48 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, is authorized pursuant to La. R.S. 48:2072(A) to promote development, construction, improvement, expansion, and maintenance of an efficient, safe, and well-maintained intermodal transportation system for Louisiana's economic growth and the ability of business and industry to compete in regional, national, and global markets and to provide a high quality of life for the people of this state; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to La. R.S. 48:2072(C), the legislature finds that authorizing the Authority to contract with private entities for the development or operation of transportation facilities will provide significant public benefit for the citizens of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to La. R.S. 48:2072(C), the public need for timely and cost-efficient development or operation of transportation facilities within the state may not be wholly satisfied by existing methods utilized by public entities to develop and operate qualifying transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Cameron Ferry Service (H.972598.1) is a qualifying transportation facility pursuant to La. R.S. 48:2073; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is authorized to receive unsolicited proposals for qualifying transportation facilities pursuant to La. R.S. 48:2084(B) and is authorized to contract with a private entity for transportation services to be provided for a qualifying transportation facility in exchange for such service payment and other consideration as the Authority may deem appropriate in accordance with La. R.S. 48:2084.1; and

WHEREAS, the Department, on behalf of the Authority, received an unsolicited proposal for operation of the Cameron Ferry Service from a private entity, LabMar Ferry Services, LLC ("*LabMar*"), on August 25, 2025, which was determined by the Department to be in conformance with the requirements of La. R.S. 48:2084(B) for an unsolicited proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, if it approves receipt of the unsolicited proposal and votes to proceed with consideration of the proposal, shall advertise for purposes of receiving competitive proposals for the same proposed qualifying transportation facility; and

WHEREAS, following a Sept. 10, 2025 vote by the LTA Board, a 90-day competitive solicitation period was held ending Dec. 29, 2025 during which the notice and Request for Competitive Proposals were advertised in the *Louisiana Register*, *Baton Rouge Advocate*, *New Orleans Advocate*, *St. Tammany Farmer*, *Cameron Pilot*, and *Foghorn*, a national marine industry trade publication; and

WHEREAS, LabMar was the sole Proposer and an evaluation committee staffed by the Department determined that the Proposal met the requirements of the Request for Competitive Proposals and designated LabMar as the Preferred Proposer; and

WHEREAS, the Cameron Parish Port, Harbor, and Terminal District held an open meeting February 26, 2026 and provided its mutual written agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Cameron Parish Police Jury, as an Affected Local Jurisdiction, provided written comment and a letter of no objection on February 25, 2026; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 48:2084(A), potential privatization of the Cameron Ferry Service was discussed at the Joint Legislative Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works held March 3, 2026, and opened for public comment at the House Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works meeting held March 17, 2026, and the Senate Committee on Transportation, Highways, and Public Works held March 18, 2026, during which no public comments were received; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with La. R.S. 48:2084(D)(1), the Authority may approve the proposal of a private entity to develop or operate a qualifying transportation facility upon finding that the proposal serves a public purpose, and shall consider the following factors to determine if a private entity proposal serves a public purpose: (a) There is a public need for a transportation facility or facilities of the type the private entity proposes to develop or operate as a transportation facility; (b) The transportation facility or facilities and the proposed interconnections with existing transportation facilities, and the private entity's plans for operation of the qualifying transportation facility or facilities are reasonable and not incompatible with the state transportation plan and with the local governmental entity's comprehensive plan or plans; (c) The estimated cost of the transportation facility or facilities is reasonable in relation to other similar facilities; and (d) The private entity's proposal will result in the timely development or more efficient operation of the transportation facility; and

WHEREAS, there is a public need for an efficient and reliable ferry service across the Calcasieu Ship Channel in Cameron Parish, where the alternative route is a detour of over 100 miles, and with continued development of industry and increasing vehicle traffic in the area; and

WHEREAS, the privatization of the existing transportation facility is not incompatible with the state transportation plan or the local governmental entity's comprehensive plan; and

WHEREAS, the Department, in collaboration with its financial advisor, has determined that the estimated cost of the privatized transportation facility is reasonable in relation to other similar facilities; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that the private entity's proposal will result in the more efficient operation of the transportation facility;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Transportation Authority that:

SECTION 1. The Authority hereby finds that the proposal to privatize existing transportation facility, the Cameron Ferry Service, as proposed by LabMar Ferry Services, LLC, serves a public purpose in accordance with the factors provided in La. R.S. 48:2084.1(D)(1) and the Authority is therefore authorized approve the proposal of the private entity to operate the qualifying transportation facility.

SECTION 2. The Authority makes no representations that an award and executed agreement to operate the Cameron Ferry Service will be granted to LabMar Ferry Services, LLC at the conclusion of this procurement.

SECTION 3. This Resolution shall be placed on file in the office of the Authority and shall be available for public inspection immediately upon adoption in accordance with State law.

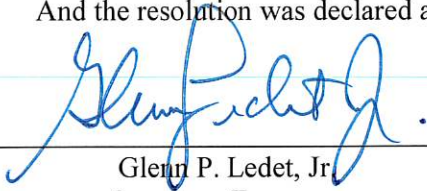
SECTION 4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

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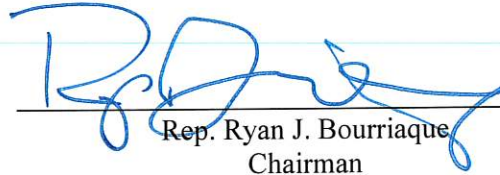
This Resolution having been submitted to a vote; the vote thereon was as follows:

<u>Member</u>	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstaining</u>
Rep. Ryan J. Bourriaque, Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Mark T. Abraham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Taylor F. Barras	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glenn P. Ledet, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Christopher Matthew Johns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rep. Jack G. McFarland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chalin O. "Cop" Perez, Jr.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. Jeremy Stine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Michael Tepper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

And the resolution was declared adopted by the Authority on this 26th day of March 2026.



Glenn P. Ledet, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer



Rep. Ryan J. Bourriaque
Chairman

STATE OF LOUISIANA

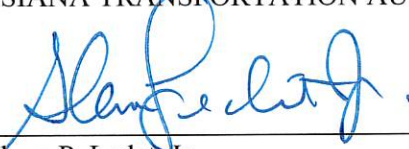
PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

I, the undersigned Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Transportation Authority, do hereby certify that the foregoing pages constitute a true and correct copy of a resolution finding that the privatization of operations and maintenance of the Cameron Ferry Service (H.972598.1) will serve a public purpose in accordance with La. R.S. 48:2084(D)(1); and providing for all other matters in connection with the foregoing.

IN FAITH WHEREOF, witness my official signature and the impress of the official seal of said Authority at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on this 26 day of MARCH 2026.

LOUISIANA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

By: _____


Glenn P. Ledet, Jr.
Secretary-Treasurer

