

By Senator Bullard

39-00421A-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to motor vehicle safety; requiring limited  
3 access facilities that are adjacent to a canal or other  
4 water body to have a system of guardrails, retention  
5 cables, or other barriers between the highway and the  
6 canal or water body; providing for the Department of  
7 Transportation to establish certain standards governing  
8 the installation and maintenance of the barriers;  
9 requiring that barriers be installed for existing highways  
10 by a specified date; providing an effective date.

11  
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

13  
14 Section 1. Barrier required between a highway and a canal  
15 or a water body.--

16 (1) Each limited access facility in an area that has a high  
17 volume of canals or narrow roadways that are adjacent to bodies  
18 of water body must have a system of guardrails, retention cables,  
19 or other barriers between the highway and the canal or water body  
20 which are installed and maintained in conformance with standards  
21 established by the Department of Transportation. The standards  
22 should be designed to limit the loss of life by safely preventing  
23 out-of-control motor vehicles from entering the canal or water  
24 body, and may include criteria, such as the width or depth of the  
25 canal or water body or its proximity to the traveled way of the  
26 highway, in specifying where barriers are required.

27 (2) For a limited access facility in existence on July 1,  
28 2008, the barriers required under this section must be installed  
29 on or before December 31, 2011.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.