

MAR 7 2006
Laid Over Under Rule 25

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 139

BY COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, REGULATION AND LABOR

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 715)

A Resolution supporting the use of traffic roundabouts
on Iowa's streets and highways.

WHEREAS, intersections at grade are the most
critical and complicated elements in highway design;
and

WHEREAS, traffic control signals at intersections
can control the capacity of motor vehicles traveling
through such intersections; and

WHEREAS, the main objective of intersection design
is public safety for motor vehicles, buses, trucks,
bicycles, and pedestrians while facilitating the
convenience, ease, and comfort of the public
traversing the intersection; and

WHEREAS, approximately one-third of fatal crashes
and over one-half of injury crashes in Iowa occur at
intersections; and

WHEREAS, modern roundabouts reduce the number of
motor vehicle and pedestrian accidents; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies show that in locations
where modern roundabouts are used, the overall number
of fatal and injury crashes is reduced by thirty-five
to forty percent, with a greater reduction in the
number of injury crashes; and

WHEREAS, modern roundabouts can reduce traffic
delays, congestion, emissions, fuel consumption, and
the annual traffic control signal maintenance cost;

NOW THEREFORE,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
2 That the House of Representatives urges the state
3 department of transportation, cities, and counties to
4 do the following:

5 1. Carefully examine existing research documenting
6 the use and experience of modern roundabout
7 construction in the United States; and

8 2. Give serious consideration to the construction
9 of modern roundabouts at locations where motor vehicle
10 capacity-related improvements are planned and, based
11 upon engineering analysis, a modern roundabout is
12 feasible; and

13 3. Once a modern roundabout is to be built,
14 educate the public on the benefits and proper use of a
15 modern roundabout.

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