

By Senator Bullard

39-00225-09

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

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Barrier required between a highway and a canal
16 or a water body.—

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

29 (2) For a limited access facility in existence on July 1,

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30 2009, the barriers required under this section must be installed
31 on or before December 31, 2012.

32 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.