

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; requiring 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.

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

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

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

HB 257

2009

29 | 2009, the barriers required under this section must be installed  
30 | on or before December 31, 2012.

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