Proposed bills extend Crescent City Connection tolls.

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AROUND THE WEST BANK

Next year the Louisiana Legislature will decide whether to extend the tolls on the Crescent City Connection. Sen. Ron Landry and Rep. John C. "Juba" Diez, who head transportation committees in the Senate and House, plan to file joint legislation to extend the tolls at their current rate to the year 2012.

"We believe that we will have support from the business community, chambers of commerce and the general populace on the West Bank to support the extension of the tolls," says Kenneth E. Pickering, attorney for the bridge commission and senior partner of Pickering, Cotogono & Dunn. Pickering says the money currently collected is used to support the maintenance and costs of operations on the bridge and to complete ongoing projects.

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