

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 16

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to border protection agreements between this state and the United Mexican States.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

ARTICLE 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDING

SECTION 1.01. (a) The legislature, acting with the governor, has the solemn duty to protect and defend the citizens of this state and maintain sovereignty over this state's borders.

(b) An individual entering this state from a foreign country shall enter through a legal port of entry.

ARTICLE 2. BORDER PROTECTION AGREEMENTS

SECTION 2.01. Title 7, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 795 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 795. BORDER PROTECTION AGREEMENTS WITH UNITED MEXICAN STATES

Sec. 795.001. AUTHORITY FOR AGREEMENTS AND ENGAGEMENT WITH AUTHORITIES OF UNITED MEXICAN STATES. (a) On behalf of this state, the governor may coordinate, develop, and execute agreements with the United Mexican States and the states of the United Mexican States regarding the authority of this state to protect and defend its citizens.

(b) The governor may appoint a group of individuals responsible for meeting in person with the appropriate local, state, and federal authorities of the United Mexican States to

1 coordinate, develop, and execute agreements under Subsection (a).  
2 The group appointed under this subsection may operate within the  
3 United Mexican States as practicable.

4 ARTICLE 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

5 SECTION 3.01. This Act takes effect immediately if it  
6 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each  
7 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.  
8 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate  
9 effect, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of  
10 the legislative session.