

1-1 By: Canales, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.B. No. 4422  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 18, 2023;  
 1-3 April 19, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Border  
 1-4 Security; May 10, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote:  
 1-5 Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 10, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			

1-13 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-14 AN ACT

1-15 relating to a study on enhancing border security outcomes through  
 1-16 public safety, technological, and transportation infrastructure  
 1-17 improvements near Texas-Mexico border crossings.

1-18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-19 SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "department" means the  
 1-20 Texas Department of Transportation.

1-21 SECTION 2. STUDY. (a) The department shall conduct a study  
 1-22 on public safety, border security, and transportation  
 1-23 infrastructure from Texas-Mexico border crossings onto the state  
 1-24 highway system to ensure safe, efficient, and streamlined  
 1-25 commercial motor vehicle connectivity that amplify Operation Lone  
 1-26 Star efforts.

1-27 (b) The department shall conduct the study in consultation  
 1-28 with:

1-29 (1) the Department of Public Safety of the State of  
 1-30 Texas;

1-31 (2) the Texas Military Department;

1-32 (3) the Texas A&M Transportation Institute;

1-33 (4) local law enforcement agencies near the  
 1-34 Texas-Mexico border;

1-35 (5) representatives of county government from at least  
 1-36 three noncontiguous counties that are:

1-37 (A) adjacent to this state's international  
 1-38 border with Mexico; or

1-39 (B) adjacent to a county described by Paragraph  
 1-40 (A) of this subdivision;

1-41 (6) representatives of the transportation industry  
 1-42 determined relevant by the department; and

1-43 (7) an independent nonprofit applied research and  
 1-44 development organization selected by the department.

1-45 (c) As part the study, the department shall:

1-46 (1) select multiple Texas-Mexico international border  
 1-47 crossings that serve commercial vehicles, as determined by the  
 1-48 department;

1-49 (2) analyze current transportation routes for  
 1-50 commercial vehicles from border crossings selected under  
 1-51 Subdivision (1) of this subsection onto the state highway system  
 1-52 and identify ways to:

1-53 (A) strengthen border security initiatives that  
 1-54 support Operation Lone Star or similar state security efforts;

1-55 (B) support law enforcement response efforts  
 1-56 near border crossings to maximize:

1-57 (i) oversight of border crossings;

1-58 (ii) inspection of vehicles using the  
 1-59 border crossing; and

1-60 (iii) use of public safety resources;

1-61 (C) enhance transportation infrastructure and  
 1-62 road technology near border crossings to:

2-1 (i) maximize the safety of communities  
2-2 located near the border and people using the highways near the  
2-3 border; and

2-4 (ii) improve transportation efficiency and  
2-5 commercial motor vehicle connectivity; and

2-6 (D) reduce traffic congestion along  
2-7 transportation routes while mitigating safety concerns;

2-8 (3) consider possible future transportation routes  
2-9 that will:

2-10 (A) improve efficiency in the movement of  
2-11 commercial motor vehicles from border crossings onto the state  
2-12 highway system; and

2-13 (B) enhance public safety, mitigate traffic  
2-14 congestion, and streamline commercial motor vehicle connectivity;

2-15 (4) assess current technologies used to promote border  
2-16 security efforts at commercial inspection facilities at or near  
2-17 border crossings and identify upgrades to existing technologies or  
2-18 alternative technologies that may improve border security efforts;  
2-19 and

2-20 (5) identify funding strategies and determine the  
2-21 amount of state money needed to improve the processing and flow of  
2-22 commercial motor vehicles at border crossings and improve  
2-23 transportation efficiency and commercial motor vehicle  
2-24 connectivity.

2-25 SECTION 3. REPORT. Not later than December 1, 2024, the  
2-26 department shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor,  
2-27 and the legislature a written report on the findings of the study  
2-28 conducted under this Act and any recommendations of the department.  
2-29 The report must include a review of the anticipated effects of the  
2-30 security and public safety improvements recommended by the study on  
2-31 international trade efforts with Mexico.

2-32 SECTION 4. EXPIRATION. This Act expires January 1, 2025.

2-33 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect  
2-34 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members  
2-35 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas  
2-36 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for  
2-37 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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