

By: Lozano

H.B. No. 4483

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a study by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute
3 regarding the economic impact of navigation districts on the state
4 and local economies.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "institute" means the Texas
7 A&M Transportation Institute.

8 (b) The institute, in consultation with the comptroller of
9 public accounts and the standing committees of the legislature with
10 primary jurisdiction over the institute, shall study each
11 navigation district and municipal utility agency responsible for a
12 ship channel with a federally authorized depth of at least 35 feet
13 in this state.

14 (c) In conducting the study, the institute shall, for each
15 navigation district and municipal utility agency:

16 (1) analyze the district's and agency's:

17 (A) assessment of fees imposed by the district or
18 agency;

19 (B) cargoes and commodities;

20 (C) navigation safety; and

21 (D) primary expenditures; and

22 (2) collect the following information:

23 (A) annual fee income;

24 (B) consistency of fee income;

1 (C) historical rate of growth in the previous 15
2 years for fee income;

3 (D) fee income sources;

4 (E) expenditures based on the following
5 categories:

6 (i) labor for maintenance and operations;

7 (ii) materials for maintenance and
8 operations;

9 (iii) materials for expansion projects;

10 (iv) consumables;

11 (v) cost overruns;

12 (vi) utilities;

13 (vii) capital expenditures;

14 (viii) project expenditures; and

15 (ix) operating expenditures;

16 (F) direct economic impacts to the state and
17 local economies from the district's or agency's activities;

18 (G) projected economic growth over the next 10
19 years;

20 (H) an assessment of all import and export
21 commodities; and

22 (I) a comprehensive analysis of security and
23 resiliency of cargoes, vessels, containers, and navigation.

24 (d) The institute shall disaggregate the data described by
25 Subsection (c) of this section by county.

26 (e) Not later than December 1, 2024, the institute shall
27 prepare a written report with the information described by this

1 section, a summary of the institute's findings, and recommendations
2 for legislative or other action and submit the report to the
3 governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
4 representatives, and the chairs of the committees of the
5 legislature with primary jurisdiction over the institute.

6 (f) This section expires January 1, 2025.

7 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.