

By: Metcalf

H.B. No. 4230

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a hike and bike trail to be known as the Bicentennial Trail.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 31, Natural Resources Code, is amended by adding Subchapter J to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER J. BICENTENNIAL TRAIL

Sec. 31.501. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "hike and bike trail" means a trail designed for the exclusive use of pedestrians and bicyclists.

Sec. 31.5011. ESTABLISHMENT OF BICENTENNIAL TRAIL. (a) The land office shall coordinate the establishment of a hike and bike trail network for the purposes described by Section 31.502, with connections as described by that section, to be known as the Bicentennial Trail.

(b) The land office shall undertake to ensure that the Bicentennial Trail is established on or before January 1, 2036.

(c) As necessary or convenient to coordinate the establishment of the Bicentennial Trail, the land office shall enter into memoranda of understanding with:

(1) political subdivisions, nonprofit organizations, the Texas Department of Transportation, and other persons as necessary to establish and maintain the trail; and

(2) the Parks and Wildlife Department:

1 (A) to acquire real property or interests in real
2 property as necessary to complete the trail routes; and

3 (B) concerning other matters related to the
4 establishment of the trail or the maintenance of the trail and
5 property associated with the trail.

6 (d) A memorandum of understanding entered into under
7 Subsection (c) may address:

- 8 (1) coordination of trail development;
9 (2) trail maintenance;
10 (3) acquisition of interests in real property;
11 (4) conservation efforts along the trail routes; or
12 (5) any other matter pertinent to the establishment or
13 maintenance of the trail.

14 (e) The land office may adopt rules as necessary to
15 coordinate the establishment of the Bicentennial Trail, including a
16 timeline for the acquisition of real property and real property
17 interests as necessary to complete the trail route.

18 (f) Real property or interests in real property necessary to
19 complete the trail routes may not be acquired through eminent
20 domain.

21 (g) This section expires September 1, 2037.

22 Sec. 31.502. BICENTENNIAL TRAIL PURPOSES. The Bicentennial
23 Trail is established as a network of hike and bike trails to connect
24 the Alamo to the State Capitol and to include hike and bike trail
25 connections to Barton Springs, San Marcos Springs, Comal Springs,
26 and San Antonio Springs for the purposes of promoting outdoor
27 recreation, environmental stewardship, and the historical and

1 cultural heritage of this state.

2 Sec. 31.503. USE OF BICENTENNIAL TRAIL PROPERTY. Real
3 property acquired by this state for the Bicentennial Trail may be
4 used only for the purposes of the Bicentennial Trail.

5 Sec. 31.504. BICENTENNIAL TRAIL MAINTENANCE. The Parks and
6 Wildlife Department shall maintain any real property acquired by
7 this state for the Bicentennial Trail.

8 SECTION 2. The expiration of Section 31.5011, Natural
9 Resources Code, as added by this Act, does not affect the validity
10 of a memorandum of understanding entered into under that section.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.