

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

S.B. 139  
By: Lucio  
Transportation  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

The Queen Isabella Causeway collapsed on September 14, 2001, when it was hit by four barges. Eight people died as a result of the collapse. S.B. 139 honors those who lost their lives, those who survived the tragedy, and those who assisted in the rescue by renaming the bridge as the Queen Isabella Memorial Bridge.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 225B, Transportation Code, by adding Section 225.057, as follows:

Sec. 225.057. QUEEN ISABELLA MEMORIAL BRIDGE. (a) Provides that the structure connecting State Highway 100 and Park Road 100 between the eastern municipal boundary of Port Isabel and the western boundary of Padre Island is designated as the Queen Isabella Memorial Bridge as a memorial to the deceased, the survivors, and the heroes of that tragic event.

(b) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to design and construct memorial markers indicating the designation as the Queen Isabella Memorial Bridge and any other appropriate information.

(c) Requires TxDOT to erect a marker at each end of the structure and at any appropriate intermediate sites along the structure.

(d) Provides that in this section, a reference to a Port Isabel municipal boundary means that boundary as it exists on January 1, 2003.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

Upon passage, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, the Act takes effect September 1, 2003.