

By: Chavez

H.B. No. 1653

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1653:

By: Griggs

C.S.H.B. No. 1653

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to approval of the construction of a bridge over the Rio
3 Grande.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 201.612, Transportation Code, is amended
6 by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (g) to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) A political subdivision or private entity authorized to
9 construct or finance the construction of a bridge over the Rio
10 Grande:

11 (1) must obtain approval from the commission and from
12 the United States under Subchapter IV, Chapter 11, Title 33, United
13 States Code, for the construction of the bridge [~~before requesting~~
14 ~~approval from the United States under Subchapter IV, Chapter 11,~~
15 ~~Title 33, United States Code~~]; and

16 (2) shall submit to the commission a report that
17 details the feasibility, location, economic effect, and
18 environmental impact of the bridge and any other information the
19 commission by rule may require.

20 (b) The [~~To the maximum extent practicable, the~~] department
21 shall:

22 (1) to the maximum extent practicable, implement the
23 approval process in the manner least burdensome to an applicant;
24 and

1 (2) allow an applicant to concurrently seek approval
2 from the commission and the United States under Subsection (a)(1).

3 (g) If the commission does not approve construction of the
4 bridge, the applicant shall withdraw the request for approval from
5 the United States.

6 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.