

By: Garza, Guillen

H.B. No. 3420

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a set-aside for certain colonia access roadway projects proposed by rural border counties.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 1403, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 1403.003 to read as follows:

Sec. 1403.003. SET-ASIDE FOR COLONIAS LOCATED IN RURAL BORDER COUNTIES. (a) In this section:

(1) "Border colonia" means a border colonia as defined by commission rule under Section 1403.002.

(2) "Rural border county" means a county that:

(A) has a population of less than 55,000; and

(B) is adjacent to an international border.

(3) "Set-aside" means a reservation of a portion of the proceeds from the sale of general obligation bonds and notes under this chapter to provide financial assistance for specific colonia access roadway projects proposed by rural border counties.

(b) The authority shall set aside an amount equal to 10 percent of the proceeds from each sale of general obligation bonds and notes under this chapter to provide financial assistance for colonia access roadway projects designed to pave roads serving border colonias located in rural border counties.

(c) The authority, as directed by the Texas Department of Transportation, shall provide a grant from the set-aside on a

1 priority basis to a rural border county that proposes to pave for  
2 the first time a road serving a border colonia located in that  
3 county. The grant may include funds to construct or improve water  
4 or wastewater facilities concurrently with that road paving.

5 (d) A grant under this section may be used by a rural border  
6 county to purchase any materials or equipment reasonably necessary  
7 to accomplish the goal of the project.

8 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to  
9 proceeds from the sale of general obligation bonds and notes that  
10 are distributed under Chapter 1403, Government Code, as amended by  
11 this Act, on or after the effective date of this Act.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.