

By: Brimer

S.B. No. 1558

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the creation and powers of a north Texas regional
3 mobility authority.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 361, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 361.0035 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 361.0035. NORTH TEXAS REGIONAL MOBILITY AUTHORITY.

8 (a) The commission by order may authorize the creation of a
9 regional mobility authority that includes Collin, Dallas, Denton,
10 Parker, Rockwall, and Tarrant counties.

11 (b) The governing body of the regional mobility authority is
12 a board of directors. The commissioners court of each county in the
13 authority shall appoint one director. If the most populous
14 municipality in a county listed in Subsection (a) has a population
15 of more than 250,000, the mayor of that municipality shall appoint
16 one director. The governor shall appoint one director who shall
17 serve as the presiding officer of the board. If the number of
18 appointed directors is an even number, the appointed directors
19 shall elect one additional director, who must reside in a county in
20 the territory of the authority.

21 (c) A regional mobility authority created under this
22 section has all the powers of:

23 (1) a regional mobility authority created under
24 Section 361.003 or another law of this state; and

1 (2) a regional transportation authority under Chapter
2 452.

3 (d) For purposes of Subsection (c), all the provisions of
4 Chapter 452 applicable to a regional transportation authority apply
5 to the regional mobility authority, to the extent that they can be
6 made applicable. All references to an authority in that chapter
7 mean the regional mobility authority. All references to an
8 executive committee in that chapter mean the board of directors of
9 the regional mobility authority.

10 (e) For a segment of a highway of the free state highway
11 system that leads into and out of the territory of the regional
12 mobility authority, the board of directors of the authority has the
13 same powers as the department under Section 222.102 or the
14 commission under 362.0041, but only if the board holds a referendum
15 on whether the authority may impose tolls on the free state highway
16 system.

17 (f) At the election the ballots shall be printed to permit
18 voting for or against the following proposition: "The operation of
19 a toll system by the (name of authority) to support the operation of
20 the North Texas Regional Mobility Authority."

21 (g) The notice of an election called under this section must
22 include a general description of the form of the services the
23 authority will provide, the general location of any proposed toll
24 booths, the amount of the proposed toll, and the proposed routes of
25 the system.

26 (h) If a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the
27 proposition, the authority may build and operate the system as

1 provided in the notice for the election. If less than a majority of
2 the votes cast are in favor of the proposition, the authority may
3 not impose a toll on a segment of a highway of the free state highway
4 system that leads into and out of the territory of the regional
5 mobility authority.

6 (i) If a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the
7 proposition, the authority may immediately commence construction
8 of a toll system provided that a toll is only imposed on a segment of
9 the free highway system located within three miles of the outermost
10 territory of the authority as described in subsection (a).

11 (j) If a majority of the votes cast are in favor of the
12 proposition, the authority shall enter into an agreement with the
13 commission under which the regional mobility authority:

14 (1) assumes the duty to maintain or rehabilitate the
15 segment of the highway as required by Section 222.102; or

16 (2) assumes each duty assigned to the commission by
17 Section 362.0041.

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