

1-1 By: Shapleigh S.C.R. No. 20
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 7, 2003; March 17, 2003, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on International Relations and
1-4 Trade; April 8, 2003, reported favorably, as amended, by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; April 8, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 1 By: Zaffirini

1-7 On page 1, line 60, insert the following language:

1-8 "WHEREAS, Each municipality where the one-stop facilities
1-9 will be located is unique and has different concerns that must be
1-10 addressed, such as the location of the facility, whether
1-11 international commerce would be impeded, whether traffic
1-12 congestion and pollution would be increased, whether all incoming
1-13 traffic would be treated the same, and whether local participation
1-14 would be prioritized; and

1-15 WHEREAS, Specifically regarding the City of Laredo, federal
1-16 and state entities should work in collaboration with municipalities
1-17 and enter into agreements that state that the location, plans, and
1-18 implementation strategy for the proposed facilities are acceptable
1-19 to all parties involved; and"

1-20 SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-21 WHEREAS, Mexico is the United States' second-largest trading
1-22 partner, and 76 percent of all United States trade with Mexico
1-23 passes through Texas, according to the Center for Transportation
1-24 Research at The University of Texas at Austin; and

1-25 WHEREAS, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration records
1-26 confirm that Texas has seven of the nation's 10 busiest southern
1-27 border crossings, and every day 12,000 trucks transporting goods
1-28 valued at \$290 million use Texas ports of entry and border
1-29 commercial zones; and

1-30 WHEREAS, Mexican trucks can travel within the interior of the
1-31 United States under terms of the North American Free Trade
1-32 Agreement, and as of January 2003, the United States Department of
1-33 Transportation had received more than 130 applications to exercise
1-34 this travel authority once associated legal issues are resolved and
1-35 the border is opened to long-haul carriers; and

1-36 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Transportation
1-37 reports a direct correlation between the condition of Mexican
1-38 trucks entering the United States and the level of inspection
1-39 resources at the border; and

1-40 WHEREAS, Texas has no permanent border safety inspection
1-41 facilities to ensure that vehicles and cargo entering the United
1-42 States comply with state and federal safety standards; rather,
1-43 inspections in Texas are confined to eight temporary state
1-44 facilities and to federal customs lots; and

1-45 WHEREAS, The 76th Legislature passed legislation in 1999
1-46 relating to the establishment of one-stop border inspection
1-47 stations where all federal, state, and municipal agencies that
1-48 regulate cross-border traffic could be located in one place; and

1-49 WHEREAS, One-stop inspection stations would provide a single
1-50 point of contact between motor carriers and government regulators
1-51 and a single point of information about regulatory requirements;
1-52 and

1-53 WHEREAS, The stations also would prevent duplication of state
1-54 and federal inspections and facilitate links in government
1-55 information systems; and

1-56 WHEREAS, Sharing the same location, eliminating redundant
1-57 inspections, and using modern technology should reduce truck
1-58 crossing times to 10 minutes, which is the concept behind one-stop
1-59 border vehicle inspection facilities; and

1-60 WHEREAS, Decisions made in Washington, D.C., in the coming
1-61 months will define border commerce for the next 10 years, affecting
1-62 not only trade but also highway damage prevention, environmental

2-1 protection, and drug interdiction; now, therefore, be it
2-2 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
2-3 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to fund
2-4 one-stop border vehicle inspection facilities; and, be it further
2-5 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
2-6 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to
2-7 the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the
2-8 senate of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the
2-9 Texas delegation to the congress with the request that this
2-10 resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a
2-11 memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

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