

By: Seaman

H.B. No. 1741

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation by certain municipalities and powers of regional mobility authorities.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 370, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 370.0311 to read as follows:

Sec. 370.0311. CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES. (a) This section applies to a municipality:

(1) with a population of 5,000 or less; and

(2) in which a ferry system that is a part of the state highway system is located.

(b) A municipality has the same authority as a county under this chapter to create and participate in an authority.

(c) A municipality that creates or participates in an authority has the same powers and duties as a county that creates or participates in an authority under this chapter.

(d) The governing body of a municipality that creates or participates in an authority has the same powers and duties as a commissioners court of a county that creates or participates in an authority under this chapter.

(e) An elected member of the governing body of a municipality that creates or participates in an authority has the same powers and duties as a commissioner of a county that creates or participates in an authority under this chapter.

1 SECTION 2. Section 370.037(h), Transportation Code, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 (h) An authority may permanently [~~temporarily~~] charge a
4 toll for use of a ferry transferred under this section [~~to pay the~~
5 ~~costs necessary for an expansion of the ferry. An authority may~~
6 ~~permanently charge a toll for use of ferry facilities that are an~~
7 ~~expansion of the ferry transferred under this section]. An
8 authority may permanently charge a fee or toll for priority use of
9 ferry facilities under Section 370.193.~~

10 SECTION 3. Subchapter E, Chapter 370, Transportation Code,
11 is amended by adding Section 370.193 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 370.193. PRIORITY BOARDING OF FERRY. An authority may
13 establish a system under which an owner of a motor vehicle may pay
14 an additional fee or toll that entitles the vehicle to have priority
15 in boarding a ferry operated by the authority.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.