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S.B. No. 183

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the appointment, operation, and recommendations of the  
3 Border Trade Advisory Committee.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 201.114, Transportation Code, is amended  
6 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 201.114. BORDER TRADE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) In  
8 this section, "coordinator" means the border commerce coordinator  
9 designated under Section 772.010, Government Code.

10 (b) The coordinator shall serve on the Border Trade Advisory  
11 Committee as presiding officer. The commission shall appoint the  
12 other members of the committee, which to the extent practicable  
13 must include:

14 (1) the presiding officers, or persons designated by  
15 the presiding officers, of the policy boards of metropolitan  
16 planning organizations located adjacent to the border with the  
17 United Mexican States and wholly or partly in the department's  
18 Pharr, Laredo, or El Paso transportation district;

19 (2) the person serving, or a person designated by the  
20 person serving, in the capacity of executive director of each  
21 entity governing a port of entry in this state; and

22 (3) a representative each from at least two institutes  
23 or centers operated by a university in this state that conduct  
24 continuing research on transportation or trade issues.

1           (c) The commission shall establish the Border Trade  
2 Advisory Committee to define and develop a strategy and make  
3 recommendations to the commission and governor for addressing the  
4 highest priority border trade transportation challenges. In  
5 determining action to be taken on the recommendations, the  
6 commission shall consider the importance of trade with the United  
7 Mexican States, potential sources of infrastructure funding at  
8 border ports, and the value of trade activity in the department's  
9 districts adjacent to the border with the United Mexican States.

10           (d) [~~(b)~~] The commission may adopt rules governing the  
11 Border Trade Advisory Committee.

12           (e) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the  
13 size, composition, or duration of the Border Trade Advisory  
14 Committee.

15           SECTION 2. Section 201.6011, Transportation Code, is  
16 amended to read as follows:

17           Sec. 201.6011. INTERNATIONAL TRADE CORRIDOR PLAN. (a) To  
18 the extent possible, the department shall coordinate with  
19 appropriate entities to develop an integrated international trade  
20 corridor plan. The plan must:

21           (1) include strategies and projects to aid the  
22 exchange of international trade using the system of multiple  
23 transportation modes in this state; [~~and~~]

24           (2) assign priorities based on the amount of  
25 international trade, measured by weight and value, using the  
26 transportation systems of this state, including:

27                   (A) border ports of entry;

- 1 (B) commercial ports;
- 2 (C) inland ports;
- 3 (D) highways;
- 4 (E) pipelines;
- 5 (F) railroads; and
- 6 (G) deepwater gulf ports; and

7 (3) address implementation of the recommendations of  
8 the Border Trade Advisory Committee under Section 201.114.

9 (b) The department shall update the plan biennially and  
10 report on the implementation of this section to the presiding  
11 officer of each house of the legislature no later than December 1 of  
12 each even-numbered year [~~7-2004~~].

13 SECTION 3. The term of a member serving on the Border Trade  
14 Advisory Committee immediately preceding the effective date of this  
15 Act expires on that date. The member may be reappointed to the  
16 committee.

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