

1-1 By: Zaffirini, Lucio, Hinojosa, Shapleigh S.B. No. 293
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 27, 2005; February 7, 2005,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on International
1-4 Relations and Trade; March 14, 2005, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 1; March 14, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to meetings between representatives of the Department of
1-9 Public Safety of the State of Texas and Mexican states on
1-10 transportation and truck inspection issues.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 411, Government Code, is
1-13 amended by adding Section 411.0097 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 411.0097. TRANSPORTATION AND INSPECTIONS MEETING WITH
1-15 REPRESENTATIVES OF MEXICAN STATES. (a) The department shall meet
1-16 at least quarterly with the department's counterparts in the
1-17 Mexican states bordering this state to discuss issues relating to
1-18 truck inspections and transportation and infrastructure involved
1-19 in truck inspections and transportation.

1-20 (b) To assist the department in carrying out this section,
1-21 the department shall contact the United States ambassador to
1-22 Mexico, the border commerce coordinator designated under Section
1-23 772.010, this state's members of the United States House of
1-24 Representatives and Senate, and the mayors of each municipality in
1-25 this state in which a port of entry for land traffic is located.

1-26 (c) Department representatives participating in a meeting
1-27 under Subsection (a) must be proficient in Spanish.

1-28 (d) Not later than the 14th day after the date of the end of
1-29 each meeting under Subsection (a), the department shall submit to
1-30 the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
1-31 representatives, and each other member of the legislature a report
1-32 including:

1-33 (1) documentation of the views, concerns, and
1-34 recommendations of the persons participating in the meeting; and

1-35 (2) the minutes of the meeting.

1-36 (e) Based on information obtained from the meetings under
1-37 Subsection (a), the department, in conjunction with the border
1-38 commerce coordinator, shall develop short-range and long-range
1-39 plans including recommendations to increase bilateral relations
1-40 with Mexico and expedite trade by mitigating delays in border
1-41 crossing inspections for northbound truck traffic. The department
1-42 shall update the plan biennially and submit the updated plan to the
1-43 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,
1-44 and each other member of the legislature on or before December 1 of
1-45 each even-numbered year.

1-46 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-47 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-48 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-49 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-50 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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