

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

S.B. 1795  
By: Ogden  
Transportation  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

H.B. 3588, 78<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Regular Session, 2003, provided the Texas Transportation Commission with several options to address the state's need to build and improve roadways throughout the state, including the authority to issue bonds against state motor fuel tax deposits. The current statute provides for a \$3 billion cap on the usage of these bonds, limiting the maximum amount that may be used in a single year to \$1 billion. Of this \$3 billion amount, \$600 million is required to be used on highway safety programs.

S.B. 1795 doubles the cap on the bonds that may be issued to fund highway projects to \$6 billion, doubles the limit on the amount that can be issued in any single year to \$1.5 billion, and doubles the total required amount to be spent on highway safety projects to \$1.2 billion.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Sections 222.003(b) and (d), Transportation Code, as follows:

(b) Prohibits the aggregate principal amount of the bonds and other public securities that are issued from exceeding \$6 billion, rather than \$3 billion. Authorizes the Texas Transportation Commission (commission) to only issue bonds or other public securities in an aggregate principal amount of not more than \$1.5 billion, rather than \$1 billion, each year.

(c) Requires the commission, of the aggregate principal amount of bonds and other public securities that may be issued under this section, to issue bonds or other public securities in an aggregate principal amount of \$1.2 billion, rather than \$600 million, to fund projects that reduce accidents or correct or improve hazardous locations on the state highway system.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2007.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2007.