

By: Hughes, Parker

H.B. No. 1757

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the obstruction of emergency vehicles at railroad
3 crossings.

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

5 SECTION 1. Sections 471.007(a) and (c), Transportation
6 Code, are amended to read as follows:

7 (a) A railway company commits an offense if:

8 (1) a train of the railway company obstructs for more
9 than 10 minutes a street, railroad crossing, or public highway; and

10 (2) as a result, an authorized emergency vehicle, as
11 defined by Section 541.201, is prevented from taking the most
12 direct route to an emergency.

13 (c) An officer charging a railway company for an offense
14 under this section shall prepare in duplicate a citation to appear
15 in court and deliver [~~attach~~] one copy of the citation to [~~the train~~
16 ~~or deliver the copy to~~] an employee or other agent of the railway
17 company. The citation must show:

18 (1) the name of the railway company;

19 (2) the offense charged; and

20 (3) the time and place that a representative of the
21 railway company is to appear in court.

22 SECTION 2. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies
23 only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this
24 Act. For purposes of this section, an offense is committed before

1 the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurs
2 before that date.

3 (b) An offense committed before the effective date of this
4 Act is covered by the law in effect when the offense was committed,
5 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.