

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1813

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to NAFTA priority projects of the Texas Department of Transportation; providing for the issuance of revenue bonds.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 201, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subchapter P to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER P. NAFTA PRIORITY PROJECTS; BORDER

INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Sec. 201.981. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Commercial motor vehicle" has the meaning assigned by 49 C.F.R. Section 390.5.

(2) "Fund" means the border infrastructure fund.

(3) "NAFTA priority project" means a transportation project undertaken by the department that is designed to:

(A) facilitate the flow of commercial motor vehicle traffic in international commerce and provide direct access to one or more international ports of entry;

(B) carry a heavier volume of commercial motor vehicles carrying freight in international commerce than domestic commerce and be used primarily in support of just-in-time manufacturing operations; and

(C) relieve the burden on local streets and highways caused by commercial motor vehicles engaged in international commerce.

1       Sec. 201.982. BORDER INFRASTRUCTURE FUND. (a) The border  
2 infrastructure fund is a dedicated account in the state treasury.

3       (b) The proceeds of tolls imposed under this subchapter  
4 shall be deposited in the fund.

5       (c) Money in the fund may be used only to pay principal of,  
6 interest on, and expenses related to bonds issued under this  
7 subchapter.

8       (d) The commission shall administer the fund.

9       Sec. 201.983. REVENUE BONDS. (a) The commission may issue  
10 revenue bonds and use the proceeds only to fund NAFTA priority  
11 projects.

12       (b) The bonds do not constitute a debt of the state or a  
13 pledge of the faith and credit of the state, but may be repaid only  
14 from the proceeds of tolls imposed under this subchapter.

15       (c) All laws generally applicable to revenue bonds issued by  
16 the state apply to bonds issued under this subchapter.

17       Sec. 201.984. IMPOSITION OF TOLL. (a) The commission shall  
18 impose a toll on each commercial motor vehicle leaving the state at  
19 the international border.

20       (b) The department shall use electronic toll collection  
21 technology to collect a toll under this subchapter and may use any  
22 other method to collect or enforce a toll under this subchapter that  
23 the department is authorized to use in connection with a state  
24 highway toll project under Chapter 228.

25       Sec. 201.985. RULES. The commission shall adopt rules to  
26 implement this subchapter.

27       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.