

Amend CSHB 300 by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTION to ARTICLE 4 of the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of that article accordingly:

SECTION 4.____. Subchapter E, Chapter 223, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 223.212 to read as follows:

Sec. 223.212. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD; COMPETING PROPOSALS CONSIDERED. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the department may enter into a comprehensive development agreement only after a two-year public comment period.

(b) During the public comment period, the department shall consider competing proposals for the development and construction of the toll project. The department may not enter into a comprehensive development agreement under which a private entity provides financing for the project in return for all or part of the revenue of the project if the department receives a proposal to build the toll project using public money that:

(1) would generate for the state the same level of revenue from the project as would the comprehensive development agreement with a less aggressive toll schedule than is called for under the agreement; or

(2) would generate for the state a greater level of revenue from the project than would the comprehensive development agreement with a toll schedule that is similar to that called for under the agreement.