Amend **CSHB 300** (house committee printing) by adding the following appropriately numbered ARTICLE to the bill and renumbering subsequent ARTICLES of the bill accordingly:

ARTICLE _____. HIGH-SPEED RAIL

SECTION _____.01. Section 91.001, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (3-b) to read as follows:

(3-b) "High-speed rail" means passenger rail service capable of operating at speeds of more than 200 miles per hour.

SECTION ____.02. Chapter 91, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G. HIGH-SPEED RAIL FACILITATION AND ANALYSIS

Sec. 91.121. TEXAS HIGH-SPEED RAIL CORPORATION. (a) The commission shall create a corporation under Subchapter B, Chapter 431, for purposes of this subchapter.

(b) The corporation is not subject to the limitation provided by Section 431.072.

(c) The corporation must have a board of seven members, of whom:

(1) three are appointed by the commission; and

(2) four are appointed by the commission from a list of candidates submitted by the South Central High-Speed Rail and Transportation Authority, Inc., a local government corporation organized under Subchapter D, Chapter 431.

Sec. 91.122. DEVELOPMENT OF SYSTEM. Subject to the commission's oversight and control under Chapter 431, the commission may direct the corporation created under Section 91.121 to:

(1) plan and develop a high-speed rail facility under this chapter;

(2) solicit federal funding to be allocated to the department for the purposes of this subchapter;

(3) coordinate with federal planners and representatives from adjacent states for the interconnectivity of high-speed rail systems in this state with systems developed in federally designated high-speed rail corridors in other states;

(4) represent and negotiate on behalf of this state for the interconnectivity of high-speed rail with existing and planned transportation systems, including airports, seaports, transit systems, commuter rail systems, and highways; and

(5) coordinate with federal transportation planners and officials at the United States Department of Defense or its successor agency regarding issues related to the provision of connectivity to military installations in this state.

Sec. 91.123. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS. A high-speed rail system developed under this subchapter must:

(1) enhance connectivity to this state's largest airports;

(2) enhance connectivity for and ease of passenger transport to and from military installations located in this state; and

(3) be developed in collaboration with high-speed rail projects in other areas of the United States to ensure interconnectivity with other federally designated high-speed rail corridors.

Sec. 91.124. REPORTS. The department annually shall submit a report regarding the activities of the department and the corporation under this subchapter to:

(1) the governor;

(2) the lieutenant governor;

(3) the speaker of the house of representatives; and

(4) the standing committee of each house of the legislature that has primary jurisdiction over rail transportation issues.