

By: Smith of Harris

H.B. No. 3758

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the port authority advisory committee and funding of
3 port security, facility projects, and studies.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 55.001(5), Transportation Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 (5) "Port security, transportation, or facility
8 project" means a project that is necessary or convenient for the
9 proper operation of a public maritime port and that will improve the
10 security, movement, and intermodal transportation of cargo or
11 passengers in commerce and trade.

12 SECTION 2. Section 55.006(a), Transportation Code, is
13 amended to read as follows:

14 (a) The committee consists of seven members appointed by the
15 commission. The members shall be appointed as follows:

16 (1) one member from the Port of Houston Authority;

17 (2) three members who represent maritime ports on the
18 upper Texas coast; and

19 (3) three members who represent maritime ports on the
20 lower Texas coast.

21 SECTION 3. Section 55.007, Transportation Code, is amended
22 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 55.007. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE. The committee shall:

24 (1) prepare a port mission plan;

1 (2) review each project eligible to be funded under
2 this chapter and make recommendations for approval or disapproval
3 to the department;

4 (3) every two years [~~maintain trade data information~~
5 ~~that will assist ports in this state and international trade,~~

6 [~~(4) annually~~] prepare a list of projects that have
7 been recommended by the committee, including:

8 (A) the recommended funding level for each
9 project; and

10 (B) if staged implementation of the project is
11 appropriate, the funding requirements for each stage; and

12 (4) [~~(5)~~] advise the commission and the department on
13 matters relating to port authorities.

14 SECTION 4. Section 55.008(b), Transportation Code, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 (b) The committee shall update the port capital program
17 [~~annually~~] and shall submit the capital program not later than
18 February 1 of each odd-numbered year to the commission for
19 distribution to:

20 (1) the governor;

21 (2) the lieutenant governor; and

22 (3) the speaker of the house of representatives [~~and~~

23 [~~(4) the commission~~].

24 SECTION 5. Section 55.002(b), Transportation Code, is
25 repealed.

26 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.