

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 578

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to state financing of public transportation.

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

SECTION 1. Section 456.003, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 456.003. PARTICIPATION INELIGIBILITY. A transit authority is ineligible to participate in the formula or discretionary program provided by this chapter unless the authority was created under Chapter 453 or former Article 1118z, Revised Statutes, by a municipality having a population of less than 200,000 at the time the authority is created.

SECTION 2. Section 456.006, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

(b-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (b), an urban transit district that was not included in an urbanized area containing a transit authority according to the 2000 federal decennial census but, as a result of the 2010 federal decennial census urban and rural classification, is included in an urbanized area that contains one or more transit authorities may receive money from the formula or discretionary program in an amount that does not exceed the amount of funds allocated to the district during the fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2011. This subsection expires August 31, 2018.

(b-2) The population of a municipality that was considered

1 part of an urban transit district for purposes of the state transit
2 funding formula for the fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2011, but
3 that is included in a large urbanized area as a result of the 2010
4 federal decennial census, continues to be considered part of the
5 urban transit district for purposes of the state transit funding
6 formula. This subsection expires August 31, 2018.

7 SECTION 3. Subchapter B, Chapter 456, Transportation Code,
8 is amended by adding Section 456.0221 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 456.0221. ALLOCATION TO CERTAIN RECIPIENTS AFFECTED BY
10 NATURAL DISASTER. (a) The commission shall consider as an urban
11 transit district for the purposes of the allocation of funds under
12 this chapter a designated recipient:

13 (1) that received money under the formula as an urban
14 transit district for the fiscal biennium ending August 31, 2011;

15 (2) whose population according to the most recent
16 decennial census is less than 50,000; and

17 (3) whose population loss over the preceding 10-year
18 period is primarily the result of a natural disaster.

19 (b) This section expires August 31, 2018.

20 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.