

By: Bonnen

H.B. No. 1305

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the issuance of oversize or overweight vehicle permits by certain port authorities.

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

SECTION 1. Section 623.210, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 623.210. OPTIONAL PROCEDURE. This subchapter provides an optional procedure for the issuance of a permit for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on state highways located in counties contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or inlet opening into the gulf and:

(1) adjacent to at least two counties with a population of 350,000 or more; or

(2) bordering the United Mexican States.

SECTION 2. Section 623.211, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 623.211. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "port authority" means a port authority or navigation district created or operating under Section 52, Article III, or Section 59, Article XVI, Texas Constitution.

SECTION 3. Section 623.212, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 623.212. PERMITS BY PORT AUTHORITY. The department may authorize a port authority to issue permits for the movement of

1 oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on state highways  
2 located in counties contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or  
3 inlet opening into the gulf and:

4 (1) adjacent to at least two counties with a  
5 population of 350,000 or more; or

6 (2) bordering the United Mexican States.

7 SECTION 4. Section 623.219, Transportation Code, is amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 623.219. ROUTE DESIGNATION. (a) For a permit issued  
10 by a port authority located in a county that borders the United  
11 Mexican States, the [The] commission shall, with the consent of the  
12 port authority, designate the most direct route from the Gateway  
13 International Bridge or the Veterans International Bridge at Los  
14 Tomates to the entrance of the Port of Brownsville using State  
15 Highways 48 and 4 or United States Highways 77 and 83 or using  
16 United States Highway 77 and United States Highway 83, East Loop  
17 Corridor, and State Highway 4.

18 (b) For a permit issued by a port authority located in a  
19 county that is adjacent to at least two counties with a population  
20 of 350,000 or more, the commission shall, with the consent of the  
21 port authority, designate the most direct route from:

22 (1) the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 523 and  
23 Moller Road to the entrance of Port Freeport using Farm-to-Market  
24 Roads 523 and 1495;

25 (2) the intersection of State Highway 288 and Chlorine  
26 Road to the entrance of Port Freeport using State Highway 288; and

27 (3) the intersection of State Highway 288 and Chlorine

1 Road to the entrance of Port Freeport using State Highways 288 and  
2 332 and Farm-to-Market Roads 523 and 1495.

3 (c) If the commission designates a route or changes the  
4 route designated under this section, the commission shall notify  
5 the port authority of the route not later than the 60th day before  
6 the date that the designation takes effect.

7 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.