

1-1 By: Bonnen (Senate Sponsor - Huffman) H.B. No. 1305  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 11, 2011;  
1-3 April 20, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Transportation and Homeland Security; May 17, 2011, reported  
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 17, 2011,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the issuance of oversize or overweight vehicle permits  
1-10 by certain port authorities.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 623.210, Transportation Code, is amended  
1-13 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 623.210. OPTIONAL PROCEDURE. This subchapter provides  
1-15 an optional procedure for the issuance of a permit for the movement  
1-16 of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on state highways  
1-17 located in counties contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or  
1-18 inlet opening into the gulf and:

1-19 (1) adjacent to at least two counties with a  
1-20 population of 550,000 or more; or

1-21 (2) bordering the United Mexican States.

1-22 SECTION 2. Section 623.211, Transportation Code, is amended  
1-23 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 623.211. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "port  
1-25 authority" means a port authority or navigation district created or  
1-26 operating under Section 52, Article III, or Section 59, Article  
1-27 XVI, Texas Constitution.

1-28 SECTION 3. Section 623.212, Transportation Code, is amended  
1-29 to read as follows:

1-30 Sec. 623.212. PERMITS BY PORT AUTHORITY. The department  
1-31 may authorize a port authority to issue permits for the movement of  
1-32 oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on state highways  
1-33 located in counties contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or  
1-34 inlet opening into the gulf and:

1-35 (1) adjacent to at least two counties with a  
1-36 population of 550,000 or more; or

1-37 (2) bordering the United Mexican States.

1-38 SECTION 4. Section 623.219, Transportation Code, is amended  
1-39 to read as follows:

1-40 Sec. 623.219. ROUTE DESIGNATION. (a) For a permit issued  
1-41 by a port authority located in a county that borders the United  
1-42 Mexican States, the [The] commission shall, with the consent of the  
1-43 port authority, designate the most direct route from the Gateway  
1-44 International Bridge or the Veterans International Bridge at Los  
1-45 Tomates to the entrance of the Port of Brownsville using State  
1-46 Highways 48 and 4 or United States Highways 77 and 83 or using  
1-47 United States Highway 77 and United States Highway 83, East Loop  
1-48 Corridor, and State Highway 4.

1-49 (b) For a permit issued by a port authority located in a  
1-50 county that is adjacent to at least two counties with a population  
1-51 of 550,000 or more, the commission shall, with the consent of the  
1-52 port authority, designate the most direct route from:

1-53 (1) the intersection of Farm-to-Market Road 523 and  
1-54 Moller Road to the entrance of Port Freeport using Farm-to-Market  
1-55 Roads 523 and 1495;

1-56 (2) the intersection of State Highway 288 and Chlorine  
1-57 Road to the entrance of Port Freeport using State Highway 288; and

1-58 (3) the intersection of State Highway 288 and Chlorine  
1-59 Road to the entrance of Port Freeport using State Highways 288 and  
1-60 332 and Farm-to-Market Roads 523 and 1495.

1-61 (c) If the commission designates a route or changes the  
1-62 route designated under this section, the commission shall notify  
1-63 the port authority of the route not later than the 60th day before  
1-64 the date that the designation takes effect.

2-1 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-5 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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