

AN ACT

relating to the funding of projects in the boundaries of certain intermunicipal commuter rail districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 173.002, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (2-a) to read as follows:

(2-a) "Commuter rail service" means the transportation of passengers and baggage by rail between locations in a district.

SECTION 2. Section 173.256, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (d) and adding Subsection (d-1) to read as follows:

(b) A district may enter into an interlocal contract with one or more ~~a~~ local government members ~~member~~ for the financing of transportation infrastructure that is constructed or that is to be constructed in the territory of the local governments ~~government~~ by the district.

(d) The agreement may establish one or more transportation infrastructure zones. The district and the local government may agree that, at one or more specified times, the local government will pay to the district an amount that is calculated on the basis of increased ad valorem tax collections in a zone that are attributable to increased values of property located in the zone resulting from an infrastructure project. Except as provided by Subsection (d-1), the ~~The~~ amount may not exceed an amount that is

1 equal to 30 percent of the increase in ad valorem tax collections
2 for the specified period.

3 (d-1) A transportation infrastructure zone of a district
4 established before January 1, 2005, may consist of a contiguous or
5 noncontiguous geographic area in the territory of one or more local
6 governments and must include a commuter rail facility or the site of
7 a proposed commuter rail facility. The amount paid by a local
8 government under Subsection (d) to a district established before
9 January 1, 2005, may not exceed an amount that is equal to the
10 increase in ad valorem tax collections in the zone for the specified
11 period.

12 SECTION 3. Subchapter G, Chapter 173, Transportation Code,
13 is amended by adding Sections 173.305 and 173.306 to read as
14 follows:

15 Sec. 173.305. TAX INCREMENT FUND FOR TRANSPORTATION
16 INFRASTRUCTURE ZONE IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS. A district established
17 before January 1, 2005, that creates a transportation
18 infrastructure zone shall establish a tax increment fund. In
19 addition to the amount of tax increment deposited to the tax
20 increment fund, all revenue from the sale of tax increment bonds or
21 notes under Section 173.306, revenue from the sale of any property
22 acquired as part of a plan adopted to use tax increment financing,
23 and other revenue to be used in implementing the plan shall be
24 deposited in the tax increment fund for the zone.

25 Sec. 173.306. TAX INCREMENT BONDS AND NOTES ISSUED BY LOCAL
26 GOVERNMENT MEMBER IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS. (a) This section applies
27 only to a district created before January 1, 2005.

1 (b) A local government member of a district creating a
2 transportation infrastructure zone may issue tax increment bonds or
3 notes, including refunding bonds, secured by revenue in the local
4 government's tax increment fund. Proceeds of bonds issued under
5 this section may be used to:

6 (1) pay project costs for the zone on behalf of which
7 the bonds or notes were issued; or

8 (2) satisfy claims of holders of the bonds or notes.

9 (c) Tax increment bonds and notes are payable, as to both
10 principal and interest, solely from the tax increment fund
11 established for the transportation infrastructure zone. The local
12 government may pledge irrevocably all or part of the fund for
13 payment of tax increment bonds or notes. The part of the fund
14 pledged in payment may be used only for the payment of the bonds or
15 notes or interest on the bonds or notes until the bonds or notes
16 have been fully paid. A holder of the bonds or notes or of coupons
17 issued on the bonds has a lien against the fund for payment of the
18 bonds or notes and interest on the bonds or notes and may protect or
19 enforce the lien at law or in equity.

20 (d) A tax increment bond or note is not a general obligation
21 of the local government issuing the bond or note. A tax increment
22 bond or note does not give rise to a charge against the general
23 credit or taxing powers of the local government and is not payable
24 except as provided by this section.

25 (e) A local government's obligation to deposit sales and use
26 taxes into the tax increment fund is not a general obligation of the
27 local government. An obligation to make payments from sales and

1 use taxes does not give rise to a charge against the general credit
2 or taxing powers of the local government and is not payable except
3 as provided by this section. A tax increment bond or note issued
4 under this section that pledges payments must state the
5 restrictions of this section on its face.

6 (f) A tax increment bond or note may not be included in any
7 computation of the debt of the issuing local government.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3030 was passed by the House on May 13, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 84, Nays 50, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3030 was passed by the Senate on May 25, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor