

By: Paxton

S.B. No. 678

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to money allocated under the federal-aid highway program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 222, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 222.036 to read as follows:

Sec. 222.036. FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY PROGRAM OPT-OUT. (a) To the extent permitted by federal law, the governor shall waive the state's right to receive money allocated under the federal-aid highway program and instead elect to receive the portion of the taxes appropriated to the Highway Trust Fund under Section 9503, Internal Revenue Code of 1986, that is attributable to highway users in the state, as calculated by the federal law permitting the waiver and election.

(b) A waiver made under Subsection (a) must comply with all applicable federal requirements associated with the waiver.

SECTION 2. (a) The comptroller shall conduct a study of how the state might benefit from withdrawing from the federal-aid highway program. The study conducted under this section must identify and analyze:

(1) methods by which the state can withdraw from the federal-aid highway program, including methods that are not dependent on approval of the federal government; and

(2) the costs and benefits associated with each method.

1           (b) Not later than January 1, 2015, the comptroller shall  
2 submit to the legislature and the presiding officers of the  
3 standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives  
4 that have jurisdiction over issues related to transportation a  
5 report containing a summary of the study conducted under Subsection  
6 (a) of this section.

7           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.