

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1253

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the relationship between Texas Department of  
3 Transportation toll projects and adjoining free roads.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 228, Transportation Code,  
6 is amended by adding Sections 228.014 and 228.015 to read as  
7 follows:

8 Sec. 228.014. PROHIBITION ON DISINCENTIVES FOR ADJOINING  
9 FREE ROAD USE. The commission may not take any action in designing,  
10 constructing, or operating a toll project under this chapter that,  
11 without a clear engineering justification, incentivizes the use of  
12 the project by discouraging the use of free adjoining roads,  
13 including by:

14 (1) constructing and maintaining adjacent free roads  
15 in a manner that requires a speed limit lower than that of the toll  
16 project;

17 (2) establishing speed limits on adjacent free roads  
18 that are slower than that of the toll project;

19 (3) establishing speed limits and installing traffic  
20 signals based on anticipated growth; and

21 (4) timing traffic signals to disrupt traffic flow.

22 Sec. 228.015. TOLL PROJECT EXITS AS DECELERATION LANES.  
23 The department shall construct exit lanes from toll projects in a  
24 manner that allows motor vehicles exiting the toll project to

1 easily decelerate to the speed allowed on the adjoining road.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.