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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: Joe C. Pickett

1 Amend C.S.H.B. No. 1 (house committee printing) by adding the
2 following appropriately numbered rider in Article VII after the
3 appropriations to the Department of Transportation:

4 _____. Report on the Elimination of Toll Roads. Out of funds
5 appropriated above, it is the intent of the legislature that the
6 Texas Department of Transportation conduct a study on the
7 feasibility of eliminating toll roads and the payment of debt to
8 accomplish this purpose. It is the intent of the legislature that
9 the report:

10 (1) list the amount of debt service on bonds issued for
11 each toll project in this state;

12 (2) identify, based on criteria provided by the Texas
13 Transportation Commission, bonds that would be appropriate for
14 accelerated or complete lump-sum payment of debt service; and

15 (3) propose a plan to eliminate all toll roads in this
16 state, except for tolls on roads constructed, operated, or
17 maintained only with proceeds from the issuance of bonds by a toll
18 project entity other than the department, by methods including:

19 (A) the accelerated or complete lump-sum payment
20 of debt service on bonds identified under Subdivision (1); or

21 (B) requiring, as a condition on receipt of state
22 financial assistance, a commitment by a toll project entity to
23 eliminate toll collection on a project for which the financial
24 assistance is provided.

25 It is the intent of the legislature that the report be completed by
26 September 1, 2016, and a copy be provided to the Legislative Budget
27 Board and the standing committees of each house of the legislature
28 with primary jurisdiction over transportation matters.