

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 1741
By: Lucio III
Transportation
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Interested parties note that when port authorities along the Texas-Mexico border issue permits to oversize and overweight vehicles, the permits limit those vehicles to operation on direct routes designated by the Texas Transportation Commission. C.S.H.B. 1741 seeks to provide another route for use by certain oversize or overweight vehicles.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 1741 amends the Transportation Code to require the Texas Transportation Commission, with the consent of a port authority located in a county that borders the United Mexican States and for purposes of the issuance of a permit by the port authority for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles on specified roads, to designate the most direct route from the Free Trade International Bridge to the eastern entrance of the Port of Harlingen using Farm-to-Market Road 509, United States Highway 77 Business, and Farm-to-Market Road 1846; to the western entrance of the Port of Harlingen using Farm-to-Market Roads 509 and 106; to the southern entrance of the Harlingen Industrial Park using Farm-to-Market Road 509; and to the southern entrance of the Harlingen Aerotropolis at Valley International Airport using Farm-to-Market Road 509, in addition to designating the most direct route from that bridge to the entrance of the Port of Brownsville for those purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2015.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 1741 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following comparison is organized and formatted in a manner that indicates the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

INTRODUCED

SECTION 1. Section 623.219(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) For a permit issued by a port authority located in a county that borders the United Mexican States, the commission shall, with the consent of the port authority, designate the most direct route from:

(1) the Gateway International Bridge or the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates to the entrance of the Port of Brownsville using State Highways 48 and 4 or United States Highways 77 and 83 or using United States Highway 77 and United States Highway 83, East Loop Corridor, and State Highway 4; and

(2) the Free Trade International Bridge to the entrance of:

(A) the Port of Brownsville using Farm-to-Market Road 509, United States Highways 77 and 83, Farm-to-Market Road 511, State Highway 550, and East Loop (State Highway 32); or

(B) the Port of Harlingen using Farm-to-Market Roads 509 and 106.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

SECTION 1. Section 623.219(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) For a permit issued by a port authority located in a county that borders the United Mexican States, the commission shall, with the consent of the port authority, designate the most direct route from:

(1) the Gateway International Bridge or the Veterans International Bridge at Los Tomates to the entrance of the Port of Brownsville using State Highways 48 and 4 or United States Highways 77 and 83 or using United States Highway 77 and United States Highway 83, East Loop Corridor, and State Highway 4; and

(2) the Free Trade International Bridge to:

(A) the entrance of the Port of Brownsville using Farm-to-Market Road 509, United States Highways 77 and 83, Farm-to-Market Road 511, State Highway 550, and East Loop (State Highway 32);

(B) the eastern entrance of the Port of Harlingen using Farm-to-Market Road 509, United States Highway 77 Business, and Farm-to-Market Road 1846;

(C) the western entrance of the Port of Harlingen using Farm-to-Market Roads 509 and 106;

(D) the southern entrance of the Harlingen Industrial Park using Farm-to-Market Road 509; and

(E) the southern entrance of the Harlingen Aerotropolis at Valley International Airport using Farm-to-Market Road 509.

SECTION 2. Same as introduced version.