

By: Kolkhorst

S.B. No. 1601

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eminent domain authority of and safety standards applicable to high-speed rail systems.

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

SECTION 1. Section 81.001, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (3) to read as follows:

(3) "High-speed rail" means intercity passenger rail service that is reasonably expected to reach speeds of at least 110 miles per hour.

SECTION 2. Section 112.002, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) Notwithstanding Subsection (b)(5), a company that operates a high-speed rail system may not exercise the power of eminent domain for the system.

SECTION 3. Section 111.103(a), Transportation Code, is repealed.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.