



17 MAY 15 AM 8:45
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Leah Elsh

BY: *Trent Ashley*

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

1 Amend C.S.S.B. No. 312 (house committee report) by adding the
2 following appropriately numbered SECTION to the bill and
3 renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION _____. Chapter 199, Transportation Code, is amended
5 by adding Section 199.003 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 199.003. USE OF STATE MONEY FOR HIGH-SPEED RAIL.

7 (a) For the purposes of this section, "high-speed rail" means
8 intercity passenger rail service that is reasonably expected to
9 reach speeds of at least 110 miles per hour.

10 (b) Except as required by federal law or other state law,
11 including the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.
12 Section 4321 et seq.):

13 (1) the legislature may not appropriate money to the
14 department to pay for a cost of planning, facility construction or
15 maintenance, or security for, promotion of, or operation of,
16 high-speed rail operated by a private entity; and

17 (2) the department may not accept or use state money to
18 pay for a cost described by Subdivision (1).

19 (c) The department shall prepare a semiannual report of each
20 expense described by this section and submit a copy of each report
21 to:

22 (1) the commission;

23 (2) the comptroller;

24 (3) the committee in each house of the legislature
25 with primary jurisdiction over transportation;

26 (4) the speaker of the house of representatives;

27 (5) the lieutenant governor; and

28 (6) the governor.

29 (d) This section is not intended to preclude or limit the

1 execution of the department's responsibilities under federal law or
2 other state law, including:
3 (1) regulatory responsibilities;
4 (2) oversight of transportation projects;
5 (3) environmental review;
6 (4) policy development;
7 (5) communication with public officials; or
8 (6) coordinating with a private entity that operates
9 or proposes to operate high-speed rail in the same manner that the
10 department coordinates with other entities that operate
11 transportation projects.