

By: Cook

H.B. No. 3440

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a joint interim committee on high-speed rail development.

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

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

(1) "Committee" means the joint interim committee on high-speed rail development.

(2) "Department" means the Texas Department of Transportation.

SECTION 2. CREATION OF JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE. (a) The joint interim committee on high-speed rail development is composed of:

(1) three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

(2) three senators appointed by the lieutenant governor.

(b) The speaker of the house of representatives and the lieutenant governor shall make the appointments under Subsection (a) of this section not later than the 60th day after the effective date of this Act.

(c) The lieutenant governor and speaker of the house of representatives shall each designate a co-chair from among the joint interim committee members.

(d) The committee shall convene at the joint call of the

1 co-chairs.

2 (e) The committee has all other powers and duties provided
3 to a special or select committee by the rules of the senate and
4 house of representatives, by Subchapter B, Chapter 301, Government
5 Code, and by policies of the senate and house committees on
6 administration.

7 SECTION 3. INTERIM STUDY REGARDING HIGH-SPEED RAIL. The
8 committee shall:

9 (1) evaluate the feasibility of creating a statewide
10 high-speed rail initiative through a public-private partnership;
11 and

12 (2) work with the department to develop a
13 comprehensive statewide strategy for the development of high-speed
14 rail in this state.

15 SECTION 4. REPORT. Not later than September 1, 2018, the
16 committee shall provide to the legislature a written report:

17 (1) addressing the feasibility of creating a statewide
18 high-speed rail initiative through a public-private partnership;
19 and

20 (2) proposing a comprehensive statewide strategy for
21 the high-speed rail development in this state.

22 SECTION 5. ABOLITION OF COMMITTEE. The joint interim
23 committee created by this Act is abolished and this Act expires
24 January 1, 2019.

25 SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
26 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
27 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas

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1 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
2 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.