86R12737 MP-D

By:  Rodriguez H.B. No. 2715

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute on motor-assisted scooters.

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

SECTION 1.  DEFINITION. In this Act, "motor-assisted scooter" has the meaning assigned by Section 551.351, Transportation Code.

SECTION 2.  STUDY AND REPORT. (a) The Texas A&M Transportation Institute, in consultation with the Texas Department of Transportation, shall conduct a study on the use of motor-assisted scooters.

(b)  The study must examine:

(1)  the legal definition and existing local regulation of motor-assisted scooters;

(2)  the liability issues related to motor-assisted scooter use and accidents;

(3)  the operation of motor-assisted scooters, including:

(A)  safety standards;

(B)  interaction with pedestrians;

(C)  shared infrastructure; and

(D)  operator qualifications;

(4)  the economic impact of motor-assisted scooters, including any burdens on or benefits to local governments;

(5)  accessibility of motor-assisted scooters;

(6)  motor-assisted scooters' impact on public transportation;

(7)  the social norms of motor-assisted scooter use, including motor-assisted scooter etiquette; and

(8)  how motor-assisted scooters have been and may be integrated into the overall transportation system.

(c)  Not later than December 1, 2020, the Texas A&M Transportation Institute shall submit to the legislature a report on the findings of the study conducted under this section.

SECTION 3.  EXPIRATION. This Act expires January 1, 2021.

SECTION 4.  EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.