

By: Toth

H.B. No. 2605

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to restrictions on certain state agency actions relating to high-speed rail projects.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 112, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 112.004 to read as follows:

Sec. 112.004. RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN STATE AGENCY ACTIONS RELATING TO HIGH-SPEED RAIL PROJECTS. (a) In this section:

(1) "High-speed rail" has the meaning assigned by Section 112.201.

(2) "State agency" means a board, commission, council, committee, department, office, agency, or other governmental entity in the executive branch of state government. The term does not include an institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

(b) Unless a state agency determines that a private entity has obtained all necessary federal approvals and permits for the construction of a high-speed rail project, the state agency may not:

(1) issue any permit required for the project; or

(2) negotiate or enter into an agreement with the private entity for right-of-way access for the project.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.