

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 907

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the preservation, maintenance, and improvement of the
Republic of Texas Granite Boundary Marker.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 442, Government Code, is
amended by adding Section 442.0074 to read as follows:

Sec. 442.0074. PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPROVEMENT
OF REPUBLIC OF TEXAS GRANITE BOUNDARY MARKER. (a) In this
section, "boundary marker" means the granite marker designating the
former international boundary between the Republic of Texas and the
United States, originally placed in 1841 at its location in Panola
County near Farm to Market Road No. 31, at or about 32°2'3"N,
94°2'35"W, and known as the Republic of Texas Granite Boundary
Marker and the International Boundary Marker.

(b) To the extent authorized by law, the commission shall
preserve, maintain, and improve the boundary marker and state land
adjacent to the boundary marker and shall:

(1) design and construct a structure or device
sufficient to protect the boundary marker from vandalism, theft,
and natural elements;

(2) display historical and educational information on
a sign or plaque at the boundary marker site to inform the public of
the history of the boundary marker and the region;

(3) cooperate with the federal government and other

1 persons as necessary to facilitate the implementation of duties
2 imposed by this section; and

3 (4) take other action the commission determines
4 necessary to preserve, maintain, restore, and improve the boundary
5 marker and the state grounds adjacent to the boundary marker for the
6 beautification and cultural enhancement of the property as a
7 significant historical site in this state.

8 (c) Notwithstanding any other law, any power or duty related
9 to the boundary marker formerly vested in another state agency is
10 vested solely in the commission.

11 (d) The commission may spend money appropriated to the
12 commission for purposes of this section only to accomplish those
13 purposes.

14 (e) The commission may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and
15 donations of money or property from any public or private source to
16 be used for the purposes of this section.

17 (f) The commission, in consultation with each state senator
18 and representative in whose district the boundary marker is located
19 and other interested parties, may:

20 (1) replace the original boundary marker with a
21 replica boundary marker;

22 (2) preserve, maintain, and display the original
23 boundary marker at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum; and

24 (3) perform the duties assigned by Subsection (b) with
25 respect to the replica boundary marker at the original boundary
26 marker location.

27 SECTION 2. The Texas Historical Commission is required to

1 implement a provision of this Act only if the legislature
2 appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If the
3 legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that
4 purpose, the Texas Historical Commission may, but is not required
5 to, implement a provision of this Act using other appropriations
6 available for that purpose.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.