88R4216 BEE-D

By:  Harris of Williamson H.B. No. 5278

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study of stopped trains of excessive length that occupy railroad grade crossings for extended periods.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The Texas Department of Transportation shall study the disruption to vehicular travel and access to residences caused by stopped trains of excessive length that occupy one or more railroad grade crossings for extended periods. The study must address the potential impact of legislation regulating:

(1)  the maximum length of trains in this state, including the minimum number of conductors that should be required for trains based on length; and

(2)  the period of time for which a stopped train may occupy a railroad grade crossing.

(b)  Not later than March 1, 2024, the Texas Department of Transportation shall submit to the standing committees of the legislature having jurisdiction over railroads a report on the findings of the study.

(c)  This section expires March 2, 2024.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.