

By: Harrison

H.B. No. 2931

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to limitations on the applicability of certain statutes to  
3 high-speed rail.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 112.002, Transportation Code, is amended  
6 by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as  
7 follows:

8 (b) A railroad company may:

9 (1) sue, be sued, plead, and be impleaded in its  
10 corporate name;

11 (2) have and use a seal and alter the seal at will;

12 (3) receive and convey persons and property on its  
13 railway by any mechanical power, including the use of steam;

14 (4) regulate the time and manner in which, and the  
15 compensation for which, passengers and property are transported,  
16 subject to the provisions of law;

17 (5) except as provided by Subsection (c), exercise the  
18 power of eminent domain for the purposes prescribed by this  
19 subtitle or Subtitle D;

20 (6) purchase, hold, and use all property as necessary  
21 for the construction and use of its railway, stations, and other  
22 accommodations necessary to accomplish company objectives, and  
23 convey that property when no longer required for railway use; and

24 (7) take, hold, and use property granted to the

1 company to aid in the construction and use of its railway, and  
2 convey that property in a manner consistent with the terms of the  
3 grant when the property is no longer required for railway use.

4 (c) A private entity may not exercise the power of eminent  
5 domain for the purpose of developing or operating high-speed rail,  
6 as defined by Section [111.103](#), [112.201](#), or [199.003](#).

7 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 131, Transportation Code,  
8 is amended by adding Section 131.0115 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 131.0115. INAPPLICABILITY TO HIGH-SPEED RAIL. This  
10 subchapter does not apply to high-speed rail, as defined by Section  
11 [111.103](#), [112.201](#), or [199.003](#).

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.