

By: Shine

H.B. No. 2956

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to municipal annexation of an area adjacent to contiguous or connecting railroad rights-of-way.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 43, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 43.1057 to read as follows:

Sec. 43.1057. ANNEXATION OF AREA ADJACENT TO CONTIGUOUS OR CONNECTING RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a municipality that is annexing an area under Subchapter C-3, C-4, C-5, or D may also annex with the initial area an additional area if:

(1) the area is adjacent to a right-of-way of a railway line, spur, or other railroad property that is:

(A) contiguous and runs parallel to the municipality's boundaries; and

(B) contiguous to the area being annexed under Subchapter C-3, C-4, C-5, or D; and

(2) each owner of the area agrees to the annexation by the municipality.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a) or other law with a municipal boundary contiguous requirement, including a municipal charter or ordinance, an area adjacent or contiguous to the initial area being annexed under Subsection (a) is considered adjacent and contiguous to the annexing municipality.

1        (c) Section 43.054 does not apply to the annexation under  
2 this section of the additional area described by Subsection (a).

3        SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.