

By: Harris of Williamson

H.B. No. 5278

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to a study of stopped trains of excessive length that
3 occupy railroad grade crossings for extended periods.

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

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

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

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

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

19 (c) This section expires March 2, 2024.

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