

AN ACT

relating to an interstate compact for border security, including building a border wall and sharing state intelligence and resources.

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

SECTION 1. Title 7, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 794 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 794. INTERSTATE COMPACT FOR BORDER SECURITY

Sec. 794.001. AUTHORITY TO DEVELOP AND EXECUTE COMPACT. On behalf of this state, the governor may develop and execute an interstate compact for border security among interested states.

Sec. 794.002. CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED. (a) It is the intent of the legislature that the compact developed and executed under this chapter not require congressional approval.

(b) The compact may not increase the political power of the compacting states in relation to the federal government.

Sec. 794.003. INTERSTATE COMPACT PROVISIONS. The compact authorized by this chapter must provide for joint action among compacting states on matters that include:

(1) sharing law enforcement intelligence on illegal activity occurring at the border with Mexico;

(2) sharing state resources in order to build a physical barrier, a comprehensive technological surveillance system, or both, on state land to deter or detect illegal activity

1 occurring at the border with Mexico; and
2 (3) sharing other law enforcement resources to ensure
3 the protection of personnel and property.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1403 passed the Senate on April 17, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 26, Nays 5; and that the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 16, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 26, Nays 5.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1403 passed the House, with amendment, on May 10, 2023, by the following vote: Yeas 95, Nays 49, three present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor