By:  Guillen (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa of Nueces) H.B. No. 1240

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 1, 2025; May 5, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Economic Development; May 14, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 1; May 14, 2025, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                    Yea Nay Absent  PNV

King                 X

Sparks               X

Alvarado             X

Johnson                  X

Schwertner           X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain governmental operations affecting the border region.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 2056.002(e)(3), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(3)  "Texas-Mexico border region" means the area consisting of the counties of Atascosa, Bandera, Bee, Bexar, Brewster, Brooks, Cameron, Crockett, Culberson, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, El Paso, Frio, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Karnes, Kenedy, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Kleberg, La Salle, Live Oak, Loving, Mason, Maverick, McCulloch, McMullen, Medina, Menard, Nueces, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Real, Reeves, San Patricio, Starr, Sutton, Terrell, Upton, Uvalde, Val Verde, Ward, Webb, Willacy, Wilson, Zapata, and Zavala.

SECTION 2.  Section 61.0821(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  In this section, "border region" has the meaning assigned to "Texas-Mexico border region" by Section 2056.002, Government Code [~~means the area composed of the counties of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Brewster, Brooks, Cameron, Crockett, Culberson, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, El Paso, Frio, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Kleberg, Live Oak, La Salle, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Nueces, Pecos, Presidio, Real, Reeves, San Patricio, Starr, Sutton, Terrell, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Willacy, Zapata, and Zavala~~].

SECTION 3.  Section 61.506(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  Each of the pilot programs must provide services to an economically depressed or rural medically underserved area of the state. One pilot program must be located in an urban area, one pilot program must be located in a rural area, and the remaining pilot program or programs must be located in the Texas-Mexico border region as defined by Section 2056.002 [~~481.001~~], Government Code.

SECTION 4.  Section 772.011(d), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d)  In this section, "border region" has the meaning assigned to "Texas-Mexico border region" by Section 2056.002 [~~means the portion of this state located within 100 kilometers of this state's international border~~].

SECTION 5.  Section 120.001(1), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(1)  "Border region" has the meaning assigned to "Texas-Mexico border region" by Section 2056.002, Government Code [~~means the area consisting of the counties immediately adjacent to the international boundary between the United States and Mexico~~].

SECTION 6.  Section 201.109(b), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  In carrying out this section, the commission shall provide for:

(1)  maximizing the generation of revenue from existing assets of the department, including real estate;

(2)  increasing the role of the private sector and public-private projects in the leasing of real estate and other assets in the development of highway projects;

(3)  setting and attempting to meet annual revenue enhancement goals;

(4)  reporting on the progress in meeting revenue enhancement goals in the department's annual report;

(5)  contracting for an independent audit of the department's management and business operations in 2007 and each 12th year after 2007;

(6)  developing a cost-benefit analysis between the use of local materials previously incorporated into roadways versus use of materials blended or transported from other sources; and

(7)  increasing private investment in the transportation infrastructure, including the acquisition of causeways, bridges, tunnels, turnpikes, or other transportation facilities, in the Texas-Mexico border region, as defined by Section 2056.002, Government Code [~~including the counties of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Brewster, Brooks, Cameron, Crockett, Culberson, Dimmit, Duval, Edwards, El Paso, Frio, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kerr, Kimble, Kinney, Kleberg, La Salle, Live Oak, Maverick, McMullen, Medina, Nueces, Pecos, Presidio, Real, Reeves, San Patricio, Starr, Sutton, Terrell, Uvalde, Val Verde, Webb, Willacy, Zapata, and Zavala~~].

SECTION 7.  Section 6.112(a), Water Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  In this section, "border region" has the meaning assigned to "Texas-Mexico border region" by Section 2056.002, Government Code [~~means the portion of this state located within 100 kilometers of this state's international border~~].

SECTION 8.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2026.

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