

By: Cain

H.B. No. 3019

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the authority of certain metropolitan rapid transit  
3 authorities and related entities to request and receive federal  
4 funds.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 451, Transportation Code, is amended by  
7 adding Section 451.069 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 451.069. SUBMISSION OF REQUESTS FOR FEDERAL FUNDS;  
9 CERTAIN AUTHORITIES. (a) This section applies only to an authority  
10 confirmed before July 1, 1985, in which the principal municipality  
11 had a population of less than 850,000 at the time of the authority's  
12 creation, and to any local government corporation created under  
13 Chapter 431 of the Transportation Code and Chapter 394 of the Local  
14 Government Code to which the authority appoints one or more members  
15 of the governing body.

16 (b) The authority, or any other entity described in  
17 subsection (a), may not apply for or receive federal funds,  
18 including capital investment grants, to be used to support  
19 construction or operation of a light rail transit system without  
20 the approval of the governor.

21 (c) In determining whether to grant an approval under  
22 Subsection (b), the governor shall consider:

23 (1) whether the governing body of the principal  
24 municipality has taken actions to adequately address public health

1 and safety issues impacting individuals experiencing homelessness  
2 and citizens of the municipality, including precluding camping in  
3 public places and areas around transit stops, stations, and other  
4 right-of-way so as to enhance the safety of users of the transit  
5 authority system;

6 (2) whether the principal municipality has taken  
7 adequate measures to enforce voter-approved restrictions against  
8 camping, sitting or lying in public spaces so as to protect public  
9 safety and the safety of users of the transit authority system; and

10 (3) the degree to which the request for funding will  
11 compete with requests from other entities in Texas and therefore  
12 result in a competitive disadvantage for the state.

13 (d) For purposes of determining whether the requirement of  
14 subsection (c)(2) has been satisfied the governor my request that  
15 the office of the attorney general review any voter-approved  
16 restrictions and actions taken subsequent thereto and provide an  
17 opinion as to whether the principal municipality is enforcing the  
18 restrictions in accordance with the voter-approved proposition.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.