

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
COMPILATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Submitted to the Committee on S/C on Transportation Funding  
For HB 1402

Compiled on: Friday, April 11, 2025 4:08 PM

Note: Comments received by the committee reflect only the view of the individual(s) submitting the comment, who retain sole responsibility for the content of the comment. Neither the committee nor the Texas House of Representatives takes a position on the views expressed in any comment. The committee compiles the comments received for informational purposes only and does not exercise any editorial control over comments.

---

Hearing Date: March 31, 2025 10:00 AM

Sylvia Coulson  
self- Dietitian  
Waxahachie, TX

I support this bill. Don't use my money to trespass on my neighbors property with imminent domain. If they cannot pay for it privately it should not be done. It has been a huge waste of money in the past.

Jeremy Hendricks  
self  
Austin, TX

HB 1402 is a direct assault on local control, our communities, and the common-sense transportation solutions Texas desperately needs. This proposal threatens to derail progress on transformative high-speed rail projects that promise to alleviate our overburdened transportation system, reduce harmful emissions, and stimulate our economy with thousands of new jobs. By prohibiting public funds for essential roadway alterations, HB 1402 effectively ties the hands of local governments, disregards the voices of communities, and stifles innovation. This is not just an attack on infrastructure—it's an attack on the future of Texas.

Julia Lyons-Ryle  
Self  
Lakeway, TX

We need to catch up with the rest of the world, and stop dumping billions into failing highways. Business needs alternatives for travel, other than air travel or hours spent on dangerous and congested highways.

Individuals need choices.

To be competitive, we need to start investing in high speed rail now, and not wait another 20 years while the rest of the world passes us by. Investment in TX will dwindle if businesses don't feel they are getting a good ROI, or that they will be able to reliably do business, transport goods and travel.

All Texans need choices and options in transportation, rather than being forced to drive miserable hours, or trust the fickle weather and airlines' massive problems for air travel.

Let's be the model of business progress and efficiency for the rest of the nation - and catch up to the rest of the world.

Melody Allen  
Self - Logistics Manager  
Waxahachie, TX

I am in support of House Bill 1402. This legislation represents a prudent and necessary measure to ensure the responsible use of public funds in Texas.

HB 1402 seeks to prohibit the use of public money for altering roadways in connection with high-speed rail construction. This is a critical step in safeguarding taxpayer dollars and maintaining transparency and accountability in public spending. High-speed rail projects, while ambitious, should not come at the expense of essential roadway infrastructure or the financial well-being of Texas residents.

The alteration of roadways to accommodate high-speed rail could divert resources away from critical transportation needs, such as road maintenance, safety improvements, and congestion relief. By prohibiting the use of public funds for such alterations, HB 1402 ensures that our transportation priorities remain focused on serving the greatest number of Texans in the most effective and equitable manner.

Furthermore, this bill reinforces the principle that private entities undertaking high-speed rail projects should bear the financial responsibility for any necessary modifications to existing infrastructure. This approach not only protects public funds but also encourages private accountability and investment.

In conclusion, HB 1402 is a common-sense measure that upholds fiscal responsibility, prioritizes essential transportation needs, and ensures that public funds are used in the best interests of all Texans. I respectfully urge the committee to support this bill.

Linda Ricks  
Self  
Midlothian, TX

Dear Members,  
I support this bill.  
Thank you,  
Linda Ricks

Stephen Zarate  
Self  
Maypearl, TX

I support this bill. We need existing roads fixed first. Then after that we can address anything for high-speed rail. That means the roads for the high-speed rail will never get addressed because we have yet to fix our existing roads.

James Morgan  
Self  
Austin, TX

We need to take a step to improve Texas transportation as a whole. It is not controversial to add high-speed rails. As a Pacific Navy Vet, these trains that they have been using for years have not had any effect on the rural areas they pass through. Can we please get our transportation up to the standards of what Japan did 45 years ago? Come on, Texas representative, use some common sense.

Michelle Mostert  
Self/Self employed  
Dripping Springs, TX

Please vote YES for HB 1402. Thank you.

Lisa Healy  
Self  
Midlothian, TX

I support this bill. Please vote it out of committee. Thank you for your consideration.

Michael Mohon

self

Ovilla, TX

No public funds/monies to pay for the alteration of roadways related to high-speed rail construction in any way. Thank-you

Dianna Greenwood

Self/Sub teacher

Bastrop, TX

Please vote against this bill

Marie Day

self

Shiner, TX

I do not support this bill for reasons stated by Rep Harris.

---

Hearing Date: March 31, 2025 10:00 AM

Rheann Ivie  
IV Ranch  
Corsicana, TX

I beg of the state Congress to look at the online comments of the real people directed towards the citizens of Texas. These are not our friends. They have used tons of tactics to steal our land via eminent domain. Look at the Miles case. Amtrak has been propped up by the US government for years. Texans will not leave our trucks behind, it is not in our culture to use high speed rail. The estimated tickets will cost \$200 each way from Dallas to Houston, they could fly Southwest for \$87. It is a foreign company owning lands in Texas. Japan has not paid property taxes on all the lands that they currently own in Texas, we have no idea what a high-speed rail will do to cattle, wildlife. We have bald eagles nesting in an area of Navarro county. There have been studies produced that cite noise and the high voltage, electricity affecting cattle, embryo, and reproductive cycles. we should not be bulldozed over by the rail. Texas property owners have rights. Some of these farms have been in our family for generations and we continue to raise cattle or livestock on them. 2% of cattle risers are currently feeding 98% of the world. Please do not give over more of our land to them. This is a private company and it has been a boondoggle from the start. It has changed hands several times they've lost funding and have not been able to bulldoze over property owners who don't want it. The sheriffs coalition for seven counties is against this because of the emergency disaster problems it may bring, and it will cut off emergency services where the rail is laid. The real company has said they will take up to 2 miles of eminent domain on either side of their tracks to take our land, water, and any natural resources we have to help them build the rail. Texans have been under the gun from this company for the last 10 years, when will it stop? I am so sorry. I cannot attend in person. I'm a public school teacher in Texas and I am preparing my students for the STAAR test.

Clay Jenkins  
Regional Transportation Council  
Dallas, TX

On behalf of the Regional Transportation Council (RTC), the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) area, I would like to express concern for House Bill 1402, filed by Representative Harris, relating to a prohibition on the use of public money for alterations to roadways associated with high-speed rail construction.

Implementing high-speed passenger rail service in the DFW region is a priority for the RTC. As the State and region continue to grow, high-speed rail will provide a faster alternative to driving, helping to alleviate congestion on roadways. In addition to reducing congestion, high-speed rail service will improve air quality, create jobs and positively impact economic development by revitalizing areas around the stations.

House Bill 1402 proposes to prohibit the use of public money for altering roadways in connection with high-speed rail projects operated by a public or private entity. This would restrict state, agency, and political subdivisions from financially supporting such infrastructure changes, potentially limiting the development or expansion of high-speed rail systems that require roadway modifications. High-speed rail between Dallas and Fort Worth is currently being planned in the DFW region. In order to minimize costs for the public, engineering for the DFW high-speed rail project is being coordinated between planned high-speed rail and Interstate improvements. House Bill 1402 is contradictory to that cost saving.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Michael Morris, P.E., Director of Transportation for NCTCOG at (817) 695-9241 or [mmorris@nctcog.org](mailto:mmorris@nctcog.org).