By: Craddick H.B. No. 1270

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the I-14 Advisory Committee.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 201, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 201.6235 to read as follows:

Sec. 201.6235. I-14 ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) In this section:

(1) "Advisory committee" means the I-14 Advisory Committee established under this section.

(2) "Feasibility study" means the study on the future Interstate Highway 14 corridor conducted by the Bryan department district.

(b) The I-14 Advisory Committee is established to:

(1) provide the department with information on concerns and interests along the future Interstate Highway 14 corridor; and

(2) advise the department on transportation improvements impacting the corridor.

(c) The advisory committee is composed of:

(1) 10 members, one of whom represents each of the following counties and is the county judge of the county or an elected county official or the administrator of the county road department designated by the county judge of the county:

(A) Bell County;

(B) Brazos County;

(C) Ector County;

(D) Jasper County;

(E) McCulloch County;

(F) Midland County;

(G) Newton County;

(H) Polk County;

(I) Tom Green County; and

(J) Tyler County;

(2) eight members, one of whom represents each of the following municipalities and is the mayor of the municipality or the city manager or an assistant city manager designated by the mayor of the municipality:

(A) Bryan;

(B) College Station;

(C) Huntsville;

(D) Killeen;

(E) Midland;

(F) Odessa;

(G) San Angelo; and

(H) Temple;

(3) three members who are economic development professionals, to be selected based on the sub-areas that were established for the feasibility study;

(4) one member who is a representative from a military installation along the corridor;

(5) one member who is a business representative from

the transportation trade industry; and

(6) one member who is a business representative from the energy industry.

(d) The members of the advisory committee described by Subsection (c)(2) shall appoint the members of the advisory committee described by Subsections (c)(3), (4), (5), and (6) by majority vote.

(e) An advisory committee member serves until the member:

(1) ceases to hold the underlying position that qualifies the member for service on the committee; or

(2) resigns.

(f) A vacancy on the advisory committee is filled:

(1) for a vacancy for a position qualified under Subsection (c)(1) or (2), by the person holding the elected position vacated by the former member or another person designated by the person holding the elected position vacated by the former member, in accordance with Subsection (c)(1) or (2), as applicable; and

(2) for a vacancy for a position described by Subsection (c)(3), (4), (5), or (6), by majority vote of the advisory committee members described by Subsection (c)(2).

(g) The advisory committee shall elect by majority vote of the committee:

(1) a chair to serve as the committee's presiding officer; and

(2) a vice chair to serve as the committee's presiding officer in the absence of the chair.

(h) The advisory committee shall meet at least twice each state fiscal year and at such other times as requested by the department or the chair. The advisory committee may meet remotely or by teleconference as determined by the department or the chair.

(i) An advisory committee member is not entitled to receive compensation for service on the committee or reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of official duties as a member of the committee.

(j) The commission may adopt rules to govern the operations of the committee that are consistent with existing commission rules and do not conflict with this section.

(k) All advisory committee meetings, whether remote or in person, must be open to the public.

(l) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the advisory committee.

SECTION 2. (a) The members of the I-14 Advisory Committee established under Section 201.6235, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, and described by Section 201.6235(c)(2), Transportation Code, as added by this Act, shall make the appointments required by that section not later than October 1, 2027.

(b) The I-14 Advisory Committee established under Section 201.6235, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, shall meet on or before the 30th day after the completion of appointments under Subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2027.