

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

C.S.S.B. 1809
By: Zaffirini
State Affairs
5/1/2001
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, FM 1472 and Bob Bullock Loop (Loop 20) provide the most direct route from IH-35 to the World Trade and Columbia Solidarity international bridges and are within the city limits of Laredo. The Texas Department of Transportation (department) issues permits to allow overweight trucks to transport cargo over these roads, but the permits are not issued locally. C.S.S.B. 1809 would allow the department to authorize the City of Laredo to issue permits for overweight and oversize vehicles on FM 1472 and Bob Bullock Loop.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 623, Transportation Code, by adding Subchapter L, as follows:

SUBCHAPTER L. CITY OF LAREDO PERMITS

Sec. 623.251. PERMITS BY CITY OF LAREDO. Authorizes the Texas Department of Transportation (department) to authorize the City of Laredo to issue permits for the movement of oversize or overweight vehicles carrying cargo on Farm-to-Market Road 1472 and the Bob Bullock Loop (Loop 20) from Columbia Solidarity Bridge and the World Trade Bridge to Interstate Highway 35. Prohibits the department from authorizing the issuance of a permit for the movement of equipment and commodities with a gross weight of more than 125,000 pounds. Sets guidelines for a permit issued under this section.

Sec. 623.252. MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS. Requires the City of Laredo, issuing permits under this chapter, to make payments to the department to provide for the maintenance of state highways, subject to this subchapter.

Sec. 623.253. PERMIT FEES. Provides that the amount of the fee for a permit issued under this subchapter is the fee otherwise required for a permit issued by the department under this chapter for the oversize or overweight vehicle. Authorizes the City of Laredo, of each fee collected for the issuance of a permit under this subchapter, to retain 15 percent to defray administrative expenses and requires the city to send the remainder to the department for deposit to the credit of the state highway fund.

Sec. 623.254. PERMIT REQUIREMENTS. Requires a permit issued under this subchapter to include certain items. Requires the City of Laredo to report to the department all permits issued under this subchapter.

Sec. 623.255. TIME OF MOVEMENT. Requires a permit issued under this subchapter to specify the time in which movement authorized by the permit is allowed.

Sec. 623.256. SPEED LIMIT. Prohibits movement authorized by a permit issued under this subchapter from exceeding the lesser of the posted speed limit or 55 miles per hour. Provides that an offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor and a moving violation.

Sec. 623.257. ENFORCEMENT. Authorizes the Department of Public Safety to enforce this subchapter.

Sec. 623.258. EXPIRATION. Provides that this subchapter expires March 1, 2005.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2001.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Amends As Filed S.B. 1809 as follows:

SECTION 1. Amends proposed new Chapter 623L, Transportation Code, as follows:

Sec. 623.251. Sets guidelines for a permit issued under this section.

Sec. 623.252. Omits original Sec. 623.252 and adds a new Sec. 623.252.

Sec. 623.253. Omits original text prohibiting the City of Laredo from collecting an extra fee for issuing a permit under this subchapter. Authorizes the City of Laredo, of each fee collected for the issuance of a permit under this subchapter, to retain 15 percent to defray administrative expenses and requires the city to send the remainder to the department for deposit to the credit of the state highway fund. Makes conforming changes and omits original Subsection (b).

SECTION 2. No changes in text.