

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R941 DWS-D

S.B. 139
By: Lucio
Infrastructure Development & Security
4/1/2003
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

The Queen Isabella Causeway collapsed on September 14, 2001, when it was hit by four barges. Eight people died as a result of the collapse. As proposed, S.B. 139 honors those who lost their lives, those who survived the tragedy, and those who assisted in the rescue by renaming the bridge as the Queen Isabella Memorial Bridge.

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 225B, Transportation Code, by adding Section 225.057, as follows:

Sec. 225.057. QUEEN ISABELLA MEMORIAL BRIDGE. (a) Provides that the structure connecting State Highway 100 and Park Road 100 between the eastern municipal boundary of Port Isabel and the western boundary of Padre Island is designated as the Queen Isabella Memorial Bridge as a memorial to Julio Mireles Gonzalez, Robert Harris, Gaspar Saenz Hinojosa, Robin Leavell, Hector Martinez, Jr., Stvan Francisco Rivas, Barry Welch, and Chealsa Welch.

(b) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) to design and construct memorial markers indicating the designation as the Queen Isabella Memorial Bridge and any other appropriate information.

(c) Requires TxDOT to erect a marker at each end of the structure and at any appropriate intermediate sites along the structure.

(d) Provides that in this section, a reference to a Port Isabel municipal boundary means that boundary as it exists on January 1, 2003.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.