

By: Canales

H.J.R. No. 144

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment authorizing the use of money
2 in the state highway fund for roadways for seaports, airports,
3 spaceports, land ports of entry, and international bridges.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 7-a, Article VIII, Texas Constitution,
6 is amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 7-a. Subject to legislative appropriation, allocation
8 and direction, all net revenues remaining after payment of all
9 refunds allowed by law and expenses of collection derived from
10 motor vehicle registration fees, and all taxes, except gross
11 production and ad valorem taxes, on motor fuels and lubricants used
12 to propel motor vehicles over public roadways, shall be used for the
13 sole purpose of acquiring rights-of-way, constructing,
14 maintaining, and policing such public roadways, and for the
15 administration of such laws as may be prescribed by the Legislature
16 pertaining to the supervision of traffic and safety on such roads;
17 and for the purpose of acquiring rights-of-way, constructing, and
18 maintaining roadways for seaports, airports, spaceports, land
19 ports of entry, and international bridges [~~payment of the principal~~
20 ~~and interest on county and road district bonds or warrants voted or~~
21 ~~issued prior to January 2, 1939, and declared eligible prior to~~
22 ~~January 2, 1945, for payment out of the County and Road District~~
23 ~~Highway Fund under existing law]; provided, however, that
24 one-fourth (1/4) of such net revenue from the motor fuel tax shall~~

1 be allocated to the Available School Fund; and, provided, however,
2 that the net revenue derived by counties from motor vehicle
3 registration fees shall never be less than the maximum amounts
4 allowed to be retained by each County and the percentage allowed to
5 be retained by each County under the laws in effect on January 1,
6 1945. Nothing contained herein shall be construed as authorizing
7 the pledging of the State's credit for any purpose.

8 SECTION 2. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
9 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.
10 The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for or against the
11 proposition: "The constitutional amendment authorizing the use of
12 money in the state highway fund for roadways for seaports,
13 airports, spaceports, land ports of entry, and international
14 bridges."

By: Canales, Burrows, Moody, Geren,
King of Uvalde

H.B. No. 3805

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3805:

By: Canales

C.S.H.B. No. 3805

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the program categories in the unified transportation
3 program.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter P, Chapter 201, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 201.9955 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 201.9955. PROGRAM CATEGORY FOR PROJECTS RELATED TO
8 BORDER SECURITY. (a) The commission by rule shall include in the
9 project categories established under Section 201.995(a) a category
10 for projects related to improving border security and establishing
11 international trade corridors.

12 (b) The projects assigned to this category must:

13 (1) provide greater security in the movement of goods
14 or enhance the flow of goods from an international border crossing
15 onto the state highway system; or

16 (2) mitigate congestion affecting airports, railroad
17 crossings, or other transportation infrastructure located within
18 60 miles of an international border crossing.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

By: Canales

H.B. No. 2605

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the funding of certain port projects.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Chapter 55, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 55. FUNDING OF PORT DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

~~[SECURITY,]~~ PROJECTS, PORT CONNECTIVITY PROJECTS, AND STUDIES

SECTION 2. Sections 55.001(4-a) and (5), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(4-a) "Port connectivity ~~[access—improvement]~~ project" means the construction or improvement of public roadways that will enhance connectivity to ports.

(5) "Port development and infrastructure ~~[security, transportation, or facility]~~ project" means an infrastructure, security, transportation, or facility ~~[a]~~ project that is necessary or convenient for the proper operation of a maritime port and that will improve the security, movement, and intermodal transportation of cargo or passengers in commerce and trade.

SECTION 3. Section 55.002, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (e) and adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(a) From money in the fund, the department shall fund:

(1) port development and infrastructure ~~[security, transportation, or facility]~~ projects; and

1 (2) maritime port studies.

2 (c) Port development and infrastructure [~~security,~~
3 ~~transportation, or facility~~] projects eligible for funding under
4 this chapter include:

5 (1) construction or improvement of transportation
6 facilities within the jurisdiction of a maritime port;

7 (2) the dredging or deepening of channels, turning
8 basins, or harbors;

9 (3) the construction or improvement of wharves, docks,
10 structures, jetties, piers, storage facilities, cruise terminals,
11 or [~~any~~] facilities necessary or useful, as determined by the
12 committee, in connection with maritime port transportation or
13 economic development;

14 (4) the construction or improvement of facilities
15 necessary or useful in providing maritime port security;

16 (5) the acquisition of container cranes or other
17 mechanized equipment used in the movement of cargo or passengers in
18 [~~international~~] commerce and trade;

19 (6) the acquisition of land to be used for maritime
20 port purposes;

21 (7) the acquisition, improvement, enlargement, or
22 extension of existing maritime port facilities; and

23 (8) environmental protection projects that:

24 (A) are required as a condition of a state,
25 federal, or local environmental permit or other form of approval;

26 (B) are necessary for the acquisition of spoil
27 disposal sites and improvements to existing and future spoil sites;

1 or

2 (C) result from the undertaking of eligible
3 projects.

4 (e) The commission may use money from the Texas Mobility
5 Fund to provide funding for a port connectivity [~~access~~
6 ~~improvement~~] project.

7 (f) A project eligible for funding under this section may
8 not receive more than 10 percent of the total amount of money
9 appropriated to the department in a fiscal biennium to fund
10 eligible projects under this section.

11 SECTION 4. Section 55.005, Transportation Code, is amended
12 by amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to
13 read as follows:

14 (b) The following money shall be credited to the fund:

15 (1) money received from gifts, grants, and donations;

16 [~~and~~]

17 (2) interest earned on deposits and investments of the
18 fund;

19 (3) money appropriated to the fund by the legislature;

20 and

21 (4) money received from the federal government.

22 (c) Money in the fund may be appropriated only to the
23 department to perform the department's powers and duties concerning
24 maritime port transportation and economic development under this
25 chapter and to pay the department's expenses incurred under this
26 chapter, as approved by the committee.

27 (c-1) Money appropriated by the legislature under

1 Subsection (b)(3) may only be used to fund eligible port
2 development and infrastructure projects under Section 55.002.

3 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.