

By: Raymond

H.B. No. 3554

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to motor vehicle inspection facilities near the border of this state and Mexico.

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

SECTION 1. Section 201.613, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 201.613. [~~ONE-STOP~~] BORDER INSPECTION FACILITIES [~~STATIONS~~]. (a) The department shall erect and maintain eight border [choose a location for an] inspection facilities not farther than 60 miles from the Rio Grande [station along a major highway at or near a border crossing from Mexico] in the Pharr [Brownsville], [in] Laredo, and [in] El Paso districts for the inspection of motor vehicles after the vehicles have been inspected for compliance with federal regulations [so that all federal, state, and municipal agencies that regulate the passage of persons or vehicles across the border at that border crossing may be located in one place].

(b) If a facility serves a bridge system that has more than 500,000 commercial border crossings per year is to be located in a municipality or a municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction, the municipality may choose the location of the facility within the municipality or the municipality's extraterritorial jurisdiction. The city shall choose the location within 180 days of a request by the department to do so. [The department shall establish and maintain an inspection station at the locations chosen in

1 ~~Subsection (a) only if the federal agencies involved in the~~
2 ~~regulation of the passage of persons or vehicles at that border~~
3 ~~crossing agree to the design of the facility at each location and~~
4 ~~agree to use the facility at each location if built].~~

5 (c) The department shall begin construction of the
6 facilities at or about the same time and shall take reasonable steps
7 to ensure that construction of the facilities progresses equally
8 ~~[The department may enter into agreements with federal, state, and~~
9 ~~municipal agencies to accomplish the purpose of this section. An~~
10 ~~agreement may involve the lease of office space at the inspection~~
11 ~~station by the department to the agency].~~

12 SECTION 2. The Texas Department of Transportation shall
13 spend the money appropriated during the 76th Legislature for
14 Section 201.613, Transportation Code, as added by Chapter 1527,
15 Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999, or money
16 received from the federal government to establish the border
17 inspection facilities under Section 201.613, Transportation Code,
18 as amended by this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it
20 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
21 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
22 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
23 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.