

By: Harris

H.B. No. 1370

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the creation of a joint interim committee on high-speed
3 rail development.

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

5 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

6 (1) "Committee" means the joint interim committee on
7 high-speed rail development.

8 (2) "Department" means the Texas Department of
9 Transportation.

10 SECTION 2. CREATION OF JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE. (a) The
11 joint interim committee on high-speed rail development is composed
12 of:

13 (1) three members of the house of representatives
14 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

15 (2) three senators appointed by the lieutenant
16 governor.

17 (b) The speaker of the house of representatives and the
18 lieutenant governor shall make the appointments under Subsection
19 (a) of this section not later than the 60th day after the effective
20 date of this Act.

21 (c) The speaker of the house of representatives and the
22 lieutenant governor shall each designate a co-chair from among the
23 committee members.

24 (d) The committee shall convene at the joint call of the

1 co-chairs.

2 (e) The committee has all other powers and duties provided
3 to a special or select committee by the rules of the senate and
4 house of representatives, by Subchapter B, Chapter 301, Government
5 Code, and by policies of the senate and house committees on
6 administration.

7 SECTION 3. INTERIM STUDY REGARDING HIGH-SPEED RAIL. The
8 committee shall:

9 (1) evaluate the feasibility of creating a statewide
10 high-speed rail initiative through a public-private partnership;
11 and

12 (2) work with the department to develop a
13 comprehensive statewide strategy for the development of high-speed
14 rail in this state.

15 SECTION 4. REPORT. Not later than September 1, 2020, the
16 committee shall provide to the legislature a written report:

17 (1) addressing the feasibility of creating a statewide
18 high-speed rail initiative through a public-private partnership;
19 and

20 (2) proposing a comprehensive statewide strategy for
21 the high-speed rail development in this state.

22 SECTION 5. ABOLITION OF COMMITTEE. The committee created
23 by this Act is abolished and this Act expires January 1, 2021.

24 SECTION 6. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
25 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
26 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
27 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for

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1 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.