

- SUBJECT:** Creating the Transportation Safety and Access Advisory Committee
- COMMITTEE:** Transportation — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Pickett, Martinez, Y. Davis, Fletcher, Israel, McClendon, Murr, Paddie, Phillips
- 3 nays — Burkett, Harless, Simmons
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Carla Penny, AARP; Heiwa Salovitz and David Wittie, ADAPT of Texas; Robin Stallings, BikeTexas; Chase Bearden, Coalition of Texans with Disabilities; Eileen Garcia, Texans Care for Children)
- Against — None
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Ginger Goodin and Joan Hudson, Texas A&M Transportation Institute; John Villanacci, Texas Department of State Health Services; Kelle Martin, Texas State Independent Living Council; Eric Gleason, TxDOT)
- BACKGROUND:** A number of advisory committees inform and provide feedback to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). Topics of these advisory committees include aviation, public transit, and freight mobility.
- Some have suggested that the number of motor vehicles on Texas roads that hit and kill pedestrians and cyclists indicates that the safety of Texas' transportation system for pedestrians and cyclists is under-examined.
- DIGEST:** HB 1136 would create the Transportation Safety and Access Advisory Committee (TSAC). It would study and advise TxDOT on methods, including infrastructure additions such as sidewalks and bicycle lanes, that the department could use to improve the safety and access of all users of state-funded and federally funded transportation projects.
- Each of the following groups would appoint one member to TSAC:

- AARP;
- the Texas chapter of the American Planning Association;
- the Texas chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects;
- the Association of Texas Metropolitan Planning Organizations;
- TxDOT;
- the Department of Aging and Disability Services;
- the Department of State Health Services;
- an organization selected by TxDOT to represent cyclists;
- an organization selected by TxDOT to represent persons with disabilities;
- the Texas Association of Counties; and
- the Texas Municipal League.

TSAC would be required to create and submit a report to TxDOT by September 1, 2016. The committee would be abolished and the statute would expire January 1, 2017.

HB 1136 would take effect September 1, 2015.