

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
84r28559 JAM-D

C.S.H.B. 663
By: King, Ken (Seliger)
Transportation
5/11/2015
Committee Report (Substituted)

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

William and Ada Hamblen lived in a dugout in Palo Duro Canyon from 1902 to 1905. In order to conduct any business in towns across the canyon, residents living on the south side of the canyon would have to travel completely around it to reach the other side. To remedy this problem, William Hamblen constructed a six-mile long wagon trail to reach the opposite side. Over the years, the roadway was incrementally improved until it eventually became part of State Highway 207. This bill seeks to name a portion of this highway as the "Hamblen Memorial Highway" as he was the original pioneer in the construction of this roadway.

C.S.H.B. 663 amends current law relating to the designation of a portion of State Highway 207 in Armstrong County as the William Hamblen Memorial Highway.

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 Subchapter B, Chapter 225, Transportation Code, by adding Section 225.106, as follows:

Sec. 225.106. WILLIAM HAMBLEN MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) Provides that the portion of State Highway 207 in Armstrong County between its intersection with Farm-to-Market Road 2272 and Farm-to-Market Road 285 is designated as the William Hamblen Memorial Highway.

(b) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), subject to Section 225.021(c) (prohibiting TxDOT from designing, constructing, or erecting a marker under this subchapter unless a grant or donation of funds is made to TxDOT to cover the cost of the design, construction, and erection of the marker), to:

- (1) design and construct markers indicating the designation as the William Hamblen Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information; and
- (2) erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2015.