

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1317  
By: King, Ken (Seliger)  
Transportation  
7/5/2017  
Enrolled

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Private First Class Charles Howard Roan, a native of Claude, gave his life to protect his fellow Marines during the landing on Peleliu on September 18, 1944. He was a recipient of the Purple Heart, the Medal of Honor, and an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal. This legislation seeks to honor his service by designating a portion of U.S. Highway 287 in Claude as the Charles H. Roan Memorial Highway. (Original Author's / Sponsor's Statement of Intent)

H.B. 1317 amends current law relating to the designation of certain highways and locations, including the establishment of the Tom Lea Trail.

### **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 A, Chapter 442, Government Code, by adding Section 442.019, as follows:

Sec. 442.019. TOM LEA TRAIL. (a) Requires the Texas Historical Commission (THC) to develop a Tom Lea Trail program (program) to commemorate the life and art of Tom Lea.

(b) Requires that the program, at a minimum, include:

- (1) designation of locations that are historically significant to the life and art of Tom Lea;
- (2) adoption of an icon, symbol, or other identifying device to represent a designation under this section;
- (3) the use of the icon, symbol, or other identifying device in promoting tourism around this state by THC and at locations designated under this section; and
- (4) the development of itineraries and maps to guide tourists to locations designated under this section.

(c) Requires THC to adopt eligibility criteria for a designation and procedures to administer the program.

(d) Requires that a historical marker or sign relating to the life and art of Tom Lea that is erected or maintained pursuant to the program adopted under this section be located not more than five miles from a location designated under Subsection (b)(1).

(e) Authorizes THC, as necessary, to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office and the Texas Department of Transportation to implement this section.

(f) Authorizes THC to solicit and accept gifts, grants, and other donations from any source to implement this section. Provides that THC is not required to promote or market the Tom Lea Trail unless THC receives funds raised from private entities for that purpose.

(g) Requires that certain segments of highway constitute the Tom Lea Trail.

(h) Provides that, in this section, a reference to a municipal boundary means that boundary as it exists on September 1, 2017.

(i) Prohibits a designation of highway segments as the Tom Lea Trail from being construed as a designation under the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. Section 300101 et seq.).

SECTION 2. Amends Subchapter B, Chapter 225, Transportation Code, by adding Sections 225.123 and 225.124, as follows:

Sec. 225.123. CHARLES H. ROAN MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) Designates the portion of U.S. Highway 287 in Claude as the Charles H. Roan Memorial Highway.

(b) Requires the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), subject to Section 225.021(c) (relating to prohibiting TxDOT from designing, constructing, or erecting a marker unless certain funds are made available), to design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Charles H. Roan Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information and erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

Sec. 225.124. KOLLYN BARTON MEMORIAL HIGHWAY. (a) Designates the portion of Farm-to-Market Road 666 in Nueces County between its intersection with State Highway 44 and Farm-to-Market Road 624 as the Kollyn Barton Memorial Highway.

(b) Requires TxDOT, subject to Section 225.021(c), to design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Kollyn Barton Memorial Highway and any other appropriate information and erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

SECTION 3. Amends Subchapter B, Chapter 225, Transportation Code, by adding Section 225.123, as follows:

Sec. 225.123. NAVARRO COUNTY VIETNAM MEMORIAL LOOP. (a) Designates the portion of State Highway 31 under construction as of September 1, 2017, as a relief route around Corsicana, in Navarro County as the Navarro County Vietnam Memorial Loop.

(b) Requires TxDOT, subject to Section 225.021(c), to design and construct markers indicating the designation as the Navarro County Vietnam Memorial Loop and any other appropriate information and erect a marker at each end of the highway and at appropriate intermediate sites along the highway.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2017.