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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: Perez of El Paso

1 Amend C.S.S.B. No. 1 (House committee printing) in Article
2 VII of the bill, following the appropriations to the Department of
3 Transportation (page VII-34), by adding the following
4 appropriately numbered rider:

5 _____. Study on Use of Unmanned Aerial Systems for
6 Cross-border Transport at Ports of Entry. (a) Out of funds
7 appropriated above to the Department of Transportation for Strategy
8 A.1.1, Plan/Design/Manage, the department shall conduct a study on
9 the feasibility of using unmanned aerial systems, including drones,
10 for the cross-border transport of lightweight commercial goods at
11 ports of entry on the border between this state and the United
12 Mexican States. The study must assess:

13 (1) relevant federal, state, and international
14 regulatory frameworks;

15 (2) infrastructure needs;

16 (3) airspace restrictions;

17 (4) safety and security protocols; and

18 (5) current use cases, including models used on the
19 border between the United States and Canada.

20 (b) In conducting the study, the Department of
21 Transportation shall consult with relevant state and federal
22 agencies, including:

23 (1) the Department of Public Safety;

24 (2) the United States Customs and Border Protection;

25 and

26 (3) the Federal Aviation Administration.

27 (c) Not later than December 1, 2026, the Department of
28 Transportation shall prepare and submit to the legislature a report
29 on the results of the study.