

- SUBJECT:** AG study of certain international agreements and effects on state law
- COMMITTEE:** Border and International Affairs — committee substitute recommended
- VOTE:** 7 ayes — T. King, Frost, Castro, Hardcastle, Hernandez, Merritt, Pickett
0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For —MerryLynn Gerstenschlager, Texas Eagle Forum Education Liaison
Against — None
- DIGEST:** CSHB 3647 would require the attorney general to conduct a study to determine whether Texas law or the authority of the Texas Legislature was or could be restricted, nullified, superseded, preempted, or otherwise directly affected by:
- any existing or proposed compact, agreement, or other arrangement between the United States, Texas or a state political subdivision, and a foreign governmental entity;
 - any international organization acting in coordination with a federal, state, or local government, or with a stated purpose of influencing governmental action or public policy; and
 - any foreign or international body acting in connection with or under the authority of a compact, agreement, or other arrangement by means of legislative, administrative, judicial, or other action.

The attorney general also would be required to investigate and report on whether any of the entities described above had attempted in any way to restrict, nullify, supersede, preempt, or otherwise directly affect the law or policy of this state or the authority of a governmental body at any level in Texas. In conducting the study, the attorney general also would consider the following organizations and agreements and any entities connected to them:

- North American Free Trade Agreement;
- Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America;
- World Trade Organization;

- General Agreement on Trade in Services;
- United Nations; and
- North America's SuperCorridor Coalition, Inc.

In conducting the study, the attorney general could arrange to make use of resources and personnel of a law school belonging to a state university. The attorney general would be required to produce and distribute the report to each member of the Legislature no later than December 1, 2008.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2007.