

HB 1961 -- Highway Right-of-Way

Sponsor: Tilley

This bill removes the provision that requires the Highways and Transportation Commission to notify companies with utility lines within a highway right-of-way when there is a plan for maintenance. Currently, the commission must provide a written notice to a utility company of a plan or chart indicating the places on the right-of-way where the lines, poles, wires, conduits, pipelines, or tramways may be maintained. The notice must include the time when the work of hard surfacing of a road will take place and the location and date of the hearing on the proposed plan. After the hearing, the commission must notify the company of its findings and orders and give the company a reasonable time to comply. If a company fails to comply with an order to remove or perform other maintenance on the lines, poles, wires, conduits, pipelines, or tramways, the commission may have the work done and billed to the company. The bill also repeals the authority of the commission to institute the necessary actions to enforce these provisions.